

Renewed Eastern flights prompt protests

BY SUSAN LaMONT

Machinists' union members, flight attendants, and pilots on strike against Eastern Airlines are mapping plans in several cities to step up demonstrations and picket line activity in response to Eastern's resumption of additional flights for the first time since the carrier was struck March 4.

- A rally will be held at San Francisco International Airport on July 2, the day Eastern is scheduled to resume flights in and out of San Francisco. The demonstration was announced by Machinists' Local 1781 President Jerry Nelson at an Eastern strike support rally held in San Francisco June 8.

- In Philadelphia, International Association of Machinists Local 1776 has announced an early morning rally for Terminal C at Philadelphia International Airport, also on July 2. That is the day Eastern has said it will resume three daily flights to Atlanta.

- Some 250 strikers, their family members, and other unionists in Atlanta organized a mass picket line at Eastern's terminal at Hartsfield International Airport June 14. "The strike is not over," was the pickets' message. Similar actions are planned by the strikers for Father's Day, June 18, and July 2.

- In Newark, a picket line of 35 strikers was on hand at 7:30 a.m., June 9, when the first of three daily flights to Atlanta resumed. "We're going to step up our demonstrations," IAM Local 1440 Secretary-treasurer Frank DeMaria told the *Newark Star-Ledger*.

When 8,500 Machinists, backed by 5,900 flight attendants and 3,400 pilots,

Continued on Page 7

Miners' strike spreads in Appalachia coalfields

BY MAGGIE McCRAW

CHARLESTON, W.Va. — Walkouts are spreading across the coalfields of southern West Virginia in solidarity with the 10-week-old strike against Pittston Coal Group. An estimated 10,000 miners in United Mine Workers District 17 have shut down virtually all union mines in six counties.

The walkouts are spreading to District 29, also in southern West Virginia, and to Kentucky and Virginia.

On June 13, the second day of these walkouts, the UMWA also expanded the number of Pittston mines that are closed down. Seventy-five miners stayed off the job and set up picket lines at Pittston's Meadow River Coal Co. in Fayette County, West Virginia.

This mine had not been called out when 1,700 miners struck other Pittston mines in Virginia and West Virginia on April 5, in an effort to win a union contract.

Meadow River is one of Pittston's most modern and efficient mines and had produced 80,000 tons of coal during the strike.

Two hundred other Pittston miners in Kentucky remain on the job as of June 13.

The thousands of miners who have walked out have pledged that they will stay out in support of their union brothers and sisters on

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Militant/Kathleen Mickells

June 11 March for Justice in Charleston, West Virginia. Thousands turned out to show support for United Mine Workers miners on strike at Pittston and New Beckley, and for Eastern Airlines strikers. See story page 11.

Chinese regime covers up massacre

BY FRED FELDMAN

Well over 800 people have been arrested across China since June 3 and 4, when the government crushed a student-led protest demanding democratic rights. And the roundup is continuing.

On June 12 the government issued rules requiring that "independent student and worker associations must immediately cease their activities, and leaders must turn themselves in." Police were authorized to use weapons against alleged rioters and those resisting arrest.

Government news media are blanketing China with the claim that there was no mas-

sacre of demonstrators but instead a mass killing of up to 300 soldiers by "a very small group" of "thugs" and "ruffians" who staged an attempted counterrevolution. "Not a single student was killed," claimed a military commander. Government officials have not provided an explanation of how the "very small group" allegedly killed so many soldiers.

Those now under arrest include at least one Chinese citizen whose offense was publicly describing mass killings by the military. Witnesses to the events have reported that at least 700 people were killed. Some estimates put the figure much higher.

Report on killings

Reporting from Beijing, Nicholas Kristof responded to the Chinese government claims in the June 13 issue of the *New York Times*:

"This reporter and many other witnesses

saw troops shoot and kill people before dawn on June 4. . . .

"Troops fired on civilians in many parts of the city," Kristof continued, "but the shooting was concentrated along the Avenue of Eternal Peace, or Changan Avenue, which runs on the north side of the square. There was heavy shooting in the Muxidi district to the west of Tiananmen Square, and there were also many casualties along the Avenue of Eternal Peace to the immediate east of the square, as well as on streets to the south of the square."

"This reporter saw troops fire on and kill people on the Avenue of Eternal Peace on the northern part of the square, as well as some who were on a segment of the square just north of the avenue."

Rumors of conflicts in the armed forces

Continued on Page 4

U.S. Supreme Court rulings undermine affirmative action

BY MARGARET JAYKO

The U.S. Supreme Court has handed down three recent rulings that seriously undermine the ability of working people to utilize affirmative action lawsuits to combat workplace discrimination.

"This is a very good opinion for business. We got more than we hoped for."

That was how Stephen Bokart of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce assessed the Supreme Court's June 5 decision making it more difficult to prove job bias and easier for employers to defend hiring and promotion practices that discriminate against Blacks, Latinos, Asians, Native Americans, and women.

Cannery workers charge racism

The 5-to-4 ruling came in a 15-year-old suit filed by Native Alaskan and Asian salmon cannery workers in Alaska. They charged that cannery owners Wards Cove Packing Co. and Castle & Cooke Inc. had channeled Native Alaskans and Filipino and other Asian workers into lower-paid jobs on the cannery line, while higher-paying, nonline positions were given to workers who are white.

The class-action suit said this job segregation was accomplished through racial

segregation of mess halls and bunkhouses, nepotism, and refusal to promote workers from within the company. The lawsuit's descriptions of the Alaskan salmon industry "bear an unsettling resemblance to aspects of a plantation economy," wrote Justice John Stevens in a dissenting opinion.

A judge had ruled in favor of the companies but was reversed by an appeals court. The appeals court noted the disparity in the racial composition of the work force in the two types of jobs and ruled that the plaintiffs had made a strong enough case to require the employers to prove that their hiring and promotion policies were motivated by business necessity rather than racism.

The Supreme Court decision in *Wards Cove Packing Co. v. Atonio* now returns the case to the appeals court, but with a ruling that puts the cannery workers in a much weaker position.

Burden of proof

The key issue in this case is: on whom does the burden of proof fall in lawsuits charging employment discrimination?

Basing themselves on Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and on a unanimous 1971 Supreme Court decision, the

Continued on Page 11

Curtis receives Spanish books; warden urged to approve magazines

On June 13 authorities at the state prison in Anamosa, Iowa, finally turned over his Spanish-English dictionary and 501 *Spanish Verbs* to political frame-up victim Mark Curtis. According to George Eichhorn, Curtis' attorney, two magazines previously denied to Curtis, the Spanish-language *Perspectiva Mundial* and the French-language *Lutte ouvrière*, have been referred to the Publications Review Committee for decision as to whether Curtis can receive those as well.

Prison officials had argued that non-English materials are a "security" threat because the prison does not have the personnel to review such literature.

"This victory in the fight to allow Curtis and other prisoners to receive written materials in languages other than English is a result of the international protest campaign we've waged for the past month," said Mark Curtis Defense Com-

mittee leader John Gaige in a telephone interview from the group's Des Moines, Iowa, office.

"This success should cause all of us to redouble our efforts to flood the warden's office with protests demanding that Curtis — and all prisoners — be allowed all non-English language materials of their choice, including the magazines that had been previously denied," stressed Gaige.

Protests should be addressed to: John A. Thalacker, Warden, Iowa State Men's Reformatory, Anamosa, Iowa 52205.

Copies should be sent to: Attorney General Thomas J. Miller, Hoover State Office Building, Des Moines, Iowa 50319; Paul Grossheim, Director of the Department of Corrections, Capitol Annex, 523 E. 12th St., Des Moines, Iowa 50309; and the Mark Curtis Defense Committee, Box 1048, Des Moines, Iowa 50311.

Atlanta, New York meetings back justice fight

Mark Curtis is a unionist and political activist from Des Moines, Iowa, who is serving a 25-year jail term on frame-up charges of rape and burglary. The Mark Curtis Defense Com-

mittee is leading an international political campaign to fight for justice for Curtis. To contact the committee, write Box 1048, Des Moines, Iowa 50311. Telephone (515) 246-1695.

DEFEND MARK CURTIS!

The Southern Christian Leadership Conference "is now on board in the struggle to free Mark Curtis. I'm here to say that the SCLC is in support of the Mark Curtis case and will do whatever we can to help."

Fred Taylor of the SCLC's National Executive Staff made this announcement at a rally held June 3 at the Martin Luther King Jr. Center for Non-Violent Social Change in Atlanta.

More than 100 people attended the Curtis defense meeting, with participants coming from Alabama, Mississippi, the Carolinas, and Canada, as well as Georgia.

Ellen Whitt, who worked at the same packinghouse as Curtis did before he was arrested in March 1988, spoke on behalf of the Mark

Curtis Defense Committee. She discussed the international protest campaign initiated by the committee against officials at the Iowa State Men's Reformatory in Anamosa. Authorities are refusing

to allow Curtis and other prisoners to receive letters, magazines, or books in languages other than English or their "primary" language. The literature ban, said Whitt, is an attempt to restrict the ability of working people, in and out of prison, to communicate with each other. It's also designed to maintain and deepen language and nationality divisions among working people.

This is the heart of what Mark Curtis' fight is about, Whitt stressed. "He understands and acts on the principle that the unity of workers is what's necessary. That's what he was doing at the Swift plant and that's what he continues to do in prison."

Linda Riggins, president of Service Employees International Union Local 679 and leader of the Justice for Janitors campaign to organize janitors at major office buildings in Atlanta, compared the prison literature ban with the attempt by Atlanta bosses to pit Ko-

rean and Black workers against each other.

The rally was co-chaired by Joan Levitt, member of United Mine Workers of America Local 2368 in Birmingham, Alabama, and by Georgia Curtis committee activist Chris Remple.

Also speaking were Maxine Cousin from Concerned Citizens for Justice in Chattanooga, Tennessee; Hollis Watkins, longtime Mississippi civil rights activist and board member of the Foundation for Children and Youth; Duma Gcabashe of the African National Congress of South Africa; Carter Gastin, United Steelworkers of America Local 12136 in Birmingham; and Al Twiss, photojournalist living in Peru.

Jeff Rogers, a member of United Food and Commercial Workers Local 442 at the Hormel plant in Atlanta, read a letter of protest to the warden at Anamosa from 25 coworkers asking that the literature ban be overturned. Curtis had been a member of UFCW Local 431 in Des Moines.

Johnny "Imani" Harris, imprisoned in Alabama since 1970 on frame-up charges of raping a white woman after he moved into an all-white neighborhood, sent a message to the rally. Harris is an endorser of the Mark Curtis Defense Committee. He has not been able to communicate directly with

Curtis because of regulations preventing prisoners from communicating with one another.

"Foreign language is a form of education that should not be prohibited because one finds oneself in prison. . . . When we are denied the right to learn it is an abridgement of the freedom of speech and the right of expression," he wrote.

Some \$4,200 was donated or pledged at the rally toward the defense committee's goal of raising \$100,000 by September 14.

"I told Piri when I met him today that when I was in high school there were two books that all of us who were interested in fighting for change read — *The Autobiography of Malcolm X* and his book, *Down These Mean Streets*," said Curtis supporter Aaron Ruby as he introduced Piri Thomas at a benefit poetry reading in New York for the Curtis defense committee.

Accompanied by Rich Lesnick on the flute and saxophone, Thomas read a selection of poems by himself and other activists.

Thomas read from a letter Curtis sent him: "When I was in the county jail, before coming to the prison, I read a copy of *Down These Mean Streets*. And I know you did quite a lot of time locked up, so you know what everybody who goes in feel like. Your book gave me con-

fidence I could handle it, too."

Thomas read poems on youth in prison, as well as poems by revolutionaries in other countries, including Gioconda Belli from Nicaragua, and Roque Dalton from El Salvador.

More than \$1,300 was donated to the defense committee.

The Curtis defense committee is urging that protest messages be sent to the warden at Anamosa asking that he allow Curtis and other prisoners to receive non-English language materials of their choice and that he end restrictions on prisoners' rights to share literature with each other.

Protests should be addressed to: John A. Thalacker, Warden, Iowa State Men's Reformatory, Anamosa, Iowa 52205.

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Ellen Berman from Atlanta and Marea Himelgrin from New York contributed to this column.

Puerto Rico socialist: no plebiscite without rights

BY SELVA NEBBIA

NEW YORK — "The plebiscite in Puerto Rico is not an internal affair of the U.S. government as it has claimed in the United Nations," declared Carlos Gallisá at a press conference held here June 5.

"A plebiscite in Puerto Rico has to be conducted according to international law. Without the supervision of the international community, a plebiscite would not be a valid process for the free determination of the Puerto Rican people," he added.

Gallisá, general secretary of the Puerto Rican Socialist Party (PSP), was referring to the referendum projected for Puerto Rico in 1991 on the political status of that country. He was here in preparation for hearings to be held by the UN decolonization committee in August.

The case of Puerto Rico, a U.S. colony since 1898, will be brought before that committee. Last year, as it has during previous years, the decolonization committee reaffirmed "the inalienable right of the peo-

ple of Puerto Rico to self-determination and independence."

One of the objectives of the U.S. government, explained Gallisá, is to use the call for a plebiscite to get the decolonization committee in August to postpone any resolution in favor of Puerto Rican independence. "They do not want a resolution this year at the UN. On the other hand, we feel that now more than ever the UN has to act on the colonial status of Puerto Rico in light of the upcoming plebiscite," Gallisá stressed.

The PSP, said Gallisá, has raised a number of conditions under which the plebiscite should be conducted. If these conditions are not met by the U.S. government, he explained, his party will call on the Puerto Rican people to boycott the plebiscite.

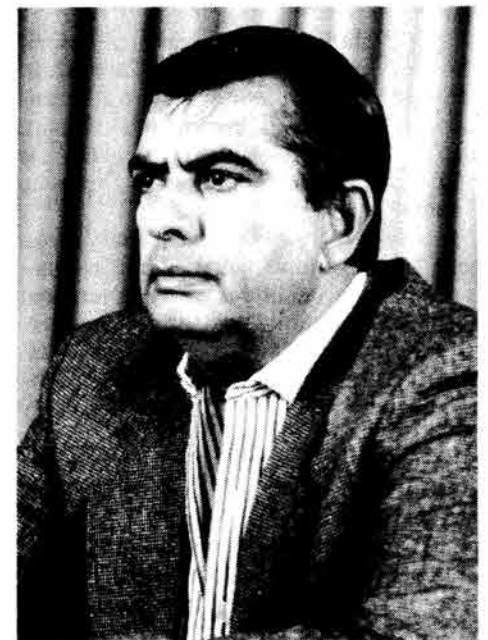
"One of these conditions is the total amnesty and freeing of the more than 20 Puerto Rican political prisoners we have now in U.S. prisons," Gallisá stated. "Another is the removal of the FBI in Puerto

Rico. The plebiscite has to be conducted under such conditions that the people of Puerto Rico can vote free of any threats, intimidation, or any action that the U.S. government can take that will hamper that vote."

If all these conditions are not met, "there can be no free determination of the Puerto Rican people," added Gallisá.

Hearings took place in Washington, D.C., June 1-2 before the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, which has jurisdiction over U.S. "territories." The hearings took up the question of Puerto Rico's political status in preparation for the upcoming plebiscite. The Senate committee will hold similar hearings June 16-19 in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

A demonstration under the slogan "No to colonialism" is scheduled to take place June 17 in San Juan, to coincide with the Senate hearings. This will be a significant action, explained Gallisá, because it will bring together the whole of the independence movement.

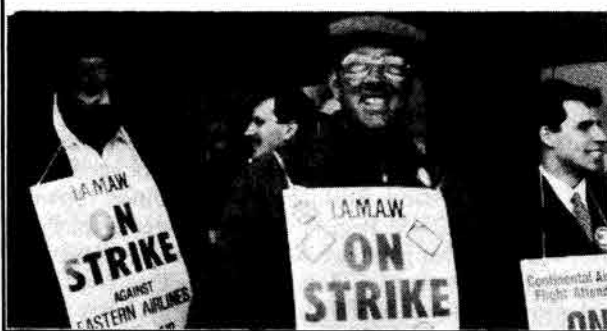


Militant/Selva Nebbia
Carlos Gallisá, Puerto Rican Socialist Party leader.

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Signed articles by contributors do not necessarily represent the *Militant's* views. These are expressed in editorials.

British dock workers strike despite court injunction

BY BRIAN GROGAN

LONDON — One-third of Britain's registered dockers this week took all-out unofficial strike action in defiance of a court order banning industrial actions. They were demanding a national agreement to replace the National Dock Labour Scheme.

Union shop stewards made the call at a meeting of representatives from the 14 ports covered by the scheme after a court injunction ordered the Transport and General Workers' Union (T&GWU) not to call an official stoppage.

A major threat to the unity of the dockers comes from the instruction of the T&GWU's top leadership to the dockers not to strike but instead to rely on an appeal to the House of Lords — the highest British court. The reason they give for this is the threat of the courts to sequester the union's £70 million (\$120 million) assets.

This instruction reinforces the attempt of the bosses to keep one or more of the registered ports open. Dockers in Southampton, one of Britain's most important deep-sea

ports, have already voted to work normally.

Unregistered dockers

It also makes it more difficult to win support from unregistered dockers, who currently handle 25 percent of the dock trade even though they are members of the same union. They are being asked to take traffic diverted from the strike-bound ports.

Ted Thrower, deputy T&GWU convenor at Felixstowe, pointed out, that "if the employers win, it will be another boost to their strength. We may see small private companies coming into the ports and undercutting wages. Although casual labor isn't an issue for us now, it may return."

The National Dock Labour Scheme was introduced in 1947 after almost a century of struggle outlawed casual working on the docks. This system had pitted docker against docker in a daily fight for a job. The new scheme insured that no matter what the daily trade, dockers were guaranteed a minimum wage.

The government headed by Margaret

Thatcher has justified the ending of this system on the grounds that it gives dockers a "job for life," which supposedly port employers can't sustain. This charge refers to the fall-back system whereby any dockers not found work by a particular employer are either relocated to another employer or to a holding company sustained by all the employers.

Communist candidate visits strikers

Doreen Wepler, the Communist League candidate for European Parliament in the June 15 elections, visited striking dockers at Tilbury, east of London. "Dockers like all workers have every right to insist on a 'job for life,'" she said. "And this right should be guaranteed by the government. Rather than abolishing the Dock Labour Scheme, this should be extended to cover all workers, including the unemployed — and the work-week shortened accordingly."

"This is what we are proposing in our campaign," she said, "unity of the working class to fight for government implementation of a 30-hour week with no loss of pay. The Trades Union Congress and the T&GWU could build broad support for the dockers on the basis of such a perspective."

The National Dock Labour Scheme has proved to be no guarantee of a job for life, however. Under its terms, the labor force on the docks has been slashed from 80,000 to the present 9,400 dockers registered under the scheme, with another 4,000 employed at unregistered ports and who are already outside its provisions.

Gov't, employers determined

But the government and the employers are determined to end what little protection this scheme still offers. In particular, they are determined to end any national bargaining rights of the union, allowing the full weight of the employers and the government to be brought to bear on the dockers at each isolated port.

"This is exactly the issue we face on the railways," commented Wepler, who works as a guard (brakeman) on British Rail. "Now we have won a decisive majority in our ballot for industrial action, including one-day strikes, a common struggle with the dockers would strengthen both our fights."

June 21 has been fixed by the National Union of Railwaymen as a one-day strike by both British Rail and London Underground workers.



G.M. Cookson
Margaret Thatcher. Her government seeks to end gains won under National Dock Labour Scheme.

"This is all the more necessary," she said, "given the use the employers are making of the courts to outlaw legitimate trade union action. It is now perfectly obvious that the judges will use any argument to outlaw a strike. The T&GWU has gone through the eye of a needle to conform with the antiunion laws, but the judges have still granted the port employers an injunction preventing strike action being called officially."

Communist candidate gets out views in campaign's last week

LONDON — The Communist League election campaign for European Parliament has had plenty of opportunities to present its perspectives. Not least was in a series of debates sponsored by the anti-apartheid movement, Oxfam, and other organizations.

Spokespeople for the Communist League have attracted interest by presenting their international program, which has sharply contrasted to those of the other candidates, including those of the official Communist Party, Labour Party, and the Green Party.

A key issue raised in the last weeks has been the student protests and subsequent government crackdown in China. As part of her campaign, Communist League candidate Doreen Wepler visited a student vigil outside the Chinese embassy in London.

She got a mixed reception. British supporters of the Polish union Solidarity have raised a banner outside the embassy that declares "Communism is death," and were not receptive to her ideas. The Chinese students themselves, including some from Hong Kong, were much more open, however. An 8,000-

strong demonstration was held here June 11 against the massacre and repression in China.

The Communist League has also used the campaign to enter into discussion with workers in different workplaces. As well as campaigning in the rail depots, Wepler has spoken to workers at an engineering plant in north London and to Ford workers at Dagenham in east London. Interest has been raised at Ford because of the recent victimization of an assembly line worker, Tony Hunt, which has come in the wake of a series of such victimizations.

Wepler was out speaking in the final week of the campaign. "Our campaign has never been bound by 'Europe,' let alone the election locality — and neither is it bound by election day," she told supporters at a fund-raising social. "We won't be ferrying people to the voting booth or watching the count on election day. We'll be continuing, on voting day and beyond, the fight for our ideas, which we believe provide an answer that can unite our class worldwide against the deepening attacks that are coming down on us." — B.G.

Don Rojas gets good response in Los Angeles; meetings in Chicago being built broadly

BY NELSON BLACKSTOCK

LOS ANGELES — In a talk centering on the impact of the debt crisis in the Caribbean and Latin America, Don Rojas addressed an audience of 200 at the downtown Our Lady of Angels Church June 2. The meeting at "La Placita," a refuge for Central American immigrants in this city, was the highlight of a broadly sponsored tour here.

Luis Olivares, a Catholic priest who is well known as an immigration rights advocate, welcomed Rojas. Olivares said that nearly 300 homeless men are forced to sleep each night in the plaza around the church, noting that U.S. policies in Central America had forced them to flee their homes.

Rojas, former secretary to assassinated Grenadian prime minister Maurice Bishop, edited the newly published Pathfinder book *One People, One Destiny: The Caribbean and Central America Today*. He is secretary for propaganda and information of the Anti-Imperialist Organizations of the Caribbean and Central America.

Cochairing the meeting were Don White of the Committee in Solidarity with the People of El Salvador and Yanira Corea, a leader of the Salvadoran solidarity movement and the Union of Salvadoran Women for Liberation. Also welcoming Rojas were Julio Cardoza of the Nicaraguan Cultural Center and Vusi Shangase of the South Af-

rican Congress of Trade Unions, as well as other leading activists from South Africa, Guatemala, Belize, and El Salvador.

In spite of threatening phone calls that forced the relocation of the main public meeting, the weeklong program of tour activities was considered by organizers and sponsors to be very successful.

Rojas spoke at length on three widely heard programs on KPFK-FM, including "Belize Caribbean Pulse," "Morning Magazine," and a show hosted by Unitarian minister Phillip Zwerling. On Sunday morning, June 4, Rojas spoke to more than 100 people at Zwerling's First Unitarian Church. Later that day, as a special guest of the African American Cultural Center, he spoke about the relevance of the Grenadian and Cuban revolutions to working people in the United States.

Rojas also addressed a meeting sponsored by the South African International Student Congress at the University of California at Los Angeles and at a meeting sponsored by the Latin American and Pan-African Studies departments at California State University in Los Angeles.

These meetings in Los Angeles were part of a national tour that has taken him to 10 cities.

BY JIM KENDRICK

CHICAGO — A group of representatives

of political, community, and South Africa solidarity organizations, bookstores, and Black educators recently met to form the Don Rojas Tour Committee. Rojas will be here June 25-July 1.

Participating in the meeting was Harold Pates, president of the Kennedy-King College; Clifton Washington, dean of Education Support Services at Roosevelt University; Conrad Worrell, chairperson of the National Black United Front; Ben Alexander, chairperson of the All African Peoples Revolutionary Party; Bob Starks of the Free South Africa Movement; Doug Gills, of the Kenwood-Oakland Community Organization; and Vera Wigglesworth from the Socialist Workers Party.

Christine Minor, assistant editor of the Third World Press; Shola Moore of the Chicago National Black Lawyers Conference; and a representative from the Pan African Revolutionary Socialist Party also took part in the meeting.

Endorsing the tour committee's efforts are William Taylor, district director of the Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers union; Abdul Alkalimat, director of 21st Century Books; the New World Resource center; and the Venceremos Brigade.

The committee has set up a press conference and interview with several radio shows. An interview has been set up with the *Final Call*, newspaper of the Nation of Islam.

Mexican socialist leaders end hunger strike

BY SELVA NEBBIA

On June 6 several leaders of the Mexican Revolutionary Workers Party (PRT) ended the hunger strike they had been carrying out in Mexico City since May 10.

They were demanding that the Mexican government release José Ramón García Gómez, the first political kidnapping victim since Carlos Salinas de Gortari became president of Mexico last year.

They were also demanding the release of Eladio Torres Flores, a political prisoner at the Santa Marta Acatitla prison. Torres, who has been imprisoned for more than nine years, is the longest-held political prisoner in Mexico, explained a member of the PRT during an interview in New York.

The Mexican government agreed to include Torres in its amnesty program and to officially make the PRT part of the commission investigating the disappearance of García.

Since his disappearance in the town of Cuautla on Dec. 16, 1988, an international campaign has won broad support for the release of García. Due to this effort the Mexican government was forced to create a special commission to investigate the case. So far this body has not come up with any information as to García's whereabouts.

In the case of Torres, the government had initially refused to include him in the list of those who will be set free under recent amnesty provisions set by the government. Torres, who was jailed in 1980, became a member of the PRT while in prison and is an honorary member of its national leadership.

Those on hunger strike were camped out in front of the Metropolitan Cathedral in Mexico City's main square. They included: Edgard Sánchez, Manuel Aguilar Mora, Leslie Serna, Simón Castillejos, and Carlos Piedra. Hunger strikes also took place in other cities around the country.

The hunger strike received a lot of support. More than 10,000 signed petitions supporting the strikers' demands.

Hundreds arrested as China gov't stages massacre cover-up

Continued from front page
over the crackdown have faded, and the armed forces now appear united in enforcing the May 20 order imposing martial law on parts of Beijing.

Top leaders appear

On June 9 Deng Xiaoping, the top leader of the Chinese government, appeared at a televised gathering with other current and veteran Communist Party leaders. Those present included Premier Li Peng, President Yang Shangkun, former president Li Xiannian, and former Beijing mayor and chairman of the National People's Congress Peng Zhen.

"A very small number of people created turmoil," Deng said, "and this eventually developed into a counterrevolutionary rebellion. They are trying to overthrow the Communist Party, topple the socialist system, and subvert the People's Republic of China so as to establish a capitalist republic."

He hailed military, police, and other security forces for "putting down" the protests.

Party General Secretary Zhao Ziyang is among those leaders who have not reappeared. He reportedly faces charges within the party of having instigated the student protests. Some members of the Communist Party Political Bureau who were regarded as Zhao's allies, however, have signaled their solidarity with the regime in television appearances.

March in Shanghai

Tens of thousands marched June 9 in Shanghai, the country's largest city, with 12

million people, to protest the killings in Beijing.

But more of the city's work force was reported back at work. Up to half were said to have been off the job in the immediate wake of the massacre.

The arrest of nine alleged leaders of protests in Shanghai was announced June 10. The unofficial student union at the city's East China Teachers College voted to dissolve.

Shanghai authorities have denounced protesters who allegedly set fire to a railroad train after what the authorities described as an "accident" on June 6. The train came under attack, and tracks were blocked by thousands after six protesters were run over and killed.

Diplomatic tension between the U.S. and Chinese governments has increased since Fang Lizhi and Li Shuxian, prominent critics of the regime, sought protection June 4 in the U.S. embassy in Beijing.

The Chinese authorities issued a warrant for their arrest June 11, charging them with "crimes of counterrevolutionary propaganda and instigation."

Fang was expelled from the party in 1987. Li, who is married to Fang, is a party member. In addition to criticizing the regime's failure to grant democratic rights and limit corruption, they have voiced opposition to Marxism. Fang did not participate in the recent protests.

The Chinese government has moved to counter the possibility of food shortages, which could heighten unrest. In the midst of the current political crisis, the government purchased 2 million tons of U.S. grain to ease a shortfall in the 1988 crop.

Production of food grains has declined or stagnated since 1985. Some farmers have cut



Train in Shanghai, burned after running over and killing six, is surrounded by protesters blocking tracks.

grain production in favor of more profitable crops, or have been unable to maximize production because of fertilizer shortages and rising prices of this and other inputs.

The inflation rate is now running at an annual rate of up to 50 percent, the highest since the 1949 revolution.

Economic policies

Premier Li sought to reassure foreign in-

vestors and the governments of imperialist countries by stating June 13 that Beijing's economic and foreign policies would not change. The regime has relied heavily in recent years on foreign investment and loans, as well as on encouraging local capitalists and private farmers, to spur economic growth.

There have been various official responses to the Beijing slaughter in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe. The protest in Tiananmen Square began May 13, shortly before Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev arrived for a state visit marking the normalization of relations between the Soviet and Chinese governments after decades of hostility between them.

On June 6 the Soviet Congress of People's Deputies adopted a resolution drafted by the Gorbachev regime reflecting its determination to preserve the improved relationship. The statement declared the events in China "an internal affair of the country."

"Any attempts at pressure from outside would be inappropriate" and threaten "stability," the resolution declared.

On June 9 Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman Gennadi Gerasimov said that the government was "extremely dismayed" by the events in Beijing. "We hadn't expected this," he said of the killings.

The June 8 *New York Times* reported that the government of Hungary had denounced the Chinese government's actions, becoming the only East European government to do so.

Junge Welt, the newspaper of the East German Communist Party's youth organization, criticized the "Western media" for waging a propaganda campaign said to be aimed at "destabilization" of China.

Hong Kong, Britain's colony in China

BY CLIVE TURNBULL

LONDON — British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher was one of the first heads of a capitalist government to condemn the killings of hundreds of protesters in China, contrasting the methods of the Chinese government to those of the "Western democracies." In doing so she claimed concern for the democratic rights of 5.7 million residents of Hong Kong. Hong Kong, which has been a British colony for nearly 150 years, is to be returned to Chinese rule in 1997. The colonial enclave was seized from China by British military force in the 19th century in retribution for attempts by Chinese rulers to prevent importation of opium into China by British merchants.

The British-appointed governor, David Wilson, is a "dictator," according to a June 3 article in *The Economist*. Political parties are banned, and there are "no institutions of democracy," the magazine reported. Wilson presides over a Legislative Council whose members are appointed from the country's richest families.

The Economist described Hong Kong's ratio of one policeman for every 200 persons as "excessive." The police can make arrests and searches without warrants, legal aid is limited, and for many offenses there is no right to trial by jury. Even though 98 percent of Hong Kong's population is Chinese, trials are conducted in English, which is also the language used in all government departments.

There is no minimum wage, social security, or national health system. In 1980 an estimated 750,000 Hong Kong residents, 15 percent of the population, lived as squatters without sewage, water, or electricity.

Free compulsory education was not introduced until 1971, for children ages 6 to 11. It was extended to children up to age 14 in 1978.

In 1984 the British and Chinese governments negotiated a Sino-British Declaration on the future of Hong Kong, under which the colony would become a "special administrative region" of China on July 1, 1997. The declaration establishes that Hong Kong will have a capitalist economy for 50 years after 1997. Chinese Communist Party leader Deng Xiaoping described this as "one country, two systems."

The British administration has been negotiating a basic law to be enacted by the Chinese People's Congress, which will govern Hong Kong beginning in 1991. The draft of the law provides for the election of 10 members of a 56-member Legislative Council, with provision for the election of the whole council at an unspecified date over the next 20 years.

The Hong Kong-China border is heavily

fortified and patrolled by 3,000 mercenaries from the former British colony of Nepal. Their job is to prevent Chinese immigrants from entering Hong Kong. The Hong Kong administration announced on June 9 that it would offer asylum to political refugees from China, subject to "screening procedures."

These screening procedures have been most recently applied to immigrants arriving by boat from Vietnam. Very few Vietnamese immigrants seeking asylum in Hong Kong have been granted entry.

The British government, in spite of Thatcher's pronouncements about democracy, has rejected a demand that it restore the right of Hong Kong residents to emigrate to Britain as citizens of a British Dependent Territory. That right was abolished under the 1981 Nationality Act. The British government has said that it will allow "greater flexibility" for those with assets over £150,000 and former senior employees in the British administration.

Arah Hector, activist in Antigua, murdered

BY DON ROJAS

Arah Hector, 43, well-known Caribbean political activist and fighter for women's rights, was buried in Antigua on June 9 following a memorial ceremony attended by hundreds of Antiguan and scores of progressive political personalities from around the Americas.

Hector was raped, shot, and strangled on May 28 and her body dumped on a beach by her attackers.

The wife of Tim Hector, leader of the Antigua-Caribbean Liberation Movement, Arah Hector headed the ACLM's Women's Action Group and was the Caribbean coordinator of the Women's Workshop in the Americas.

She was also the coordinator of Women for Caribbean Liberation, a network of women's movements and organizations throughout the region.

Detectives from the British police services were called in by the Antigua government to investigate the murder, but so far they have

not made public their findings.

Speculation is rife, however, that Hector may have been murdered by drug traffickers since the ACLM has been campaigning in its weekly newspaper, *Outlet*, against the alleged use of Antigua as a drug transshipment port.

Recent articles in *Outlet*, the most widely circulated newspaper in the country, have accused top government ministers of having a hand in the drug trade.

The viciousness of Hector's murder shocked the people of the Caribbean and those who knew her and had worked with her in Europe, Africa, and North America. Eusi Kwayana, a leader of the Working People's Alliance of Guyana described the assault on her as "unspeakable and gruesome."

Tim Hector, who was in Africa when the murder took place, called for an intensification of the struggle against the brutalization and dehumanization of women in the Caribbean and around the world. Hector's three

sons paid tribute to their mother.

Tributes were also given by Margarita Matias of the Women's Workshop in the Americas and by Andae of Women for Caribbean Liberation. Telegrams of condolence were received from around the world, including from the Federation of Cuban Women.

Remembered by her many friends and fellow activists as a warm, kind, and energetic fighter, Arah Hector leaves a rich legacy of struggle for and on behalf of the oppressed masses of the Americas.

Several who attended the memorial said that instead of mourning, Arah would have preferred her supporters to redouble their efforts to mobilize Caribbean working women to fight for equal rights and recognition.

For this reason, the memorial ceremonies were upbeat political reaffirmations of the need to push ahead with the fight for the liberation of women and men from all forms of exploitation and oppression.

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China's 'Proletarian Cultural Revolution'

BY FRED FELDMAN

(Third in a series)

Beginning in 1965 with an attack on authors suspected of political dissent, the faction of the ruling Chinese Communist Party led by party Chairman Mao Tse-tung launched a battle to oust head of state Liu Shao-chi, Deng Xiaoping, and others. In the early 1960s, the latter were responsible for much of the day-to-day running of the party and Chinese government.

Mao sought to remove them and establish himself as the sole and unchallengeable arbiter over the governing bureaucratic caste and Chinese society as a whole. Mao also ob-

BEHIND CRISIS IN CHINA

jected to some of the steps taken to overcome the economic damage and appease popular disaffection with the regime resulting from the "Great Leap Forward" disaster he had sponsored in 1958.

Collectivization of agriculture, imposed on the peasantry in the years leading up to the "Great Leap," was relaxed. The giant communes, established in 1958, which incorporated all of the land and most of the personal property of peasant members, were retained in name only. Greater reliance was placed on small production teams. Peasants were permitted to work small private plots of land, along with the land belonging to the cooperatives.

Liu, Deng, and others favored even further steps away from forced collectivization. The alternative they proposed was greater reliance on private farming.

In industry, they placed greater emphasis on use of material incentives such as bonuses to spur workers to produce more, rather than frenzied administrative drives to squeeze more out of the labor force.

Repression of art, culture, and political discussion was relaxed for a time.

To overcome the strong support that Liu and Deng had in the party and government bureaucracy, Mao relied primarily on the support of Defense Minister Lin Biao and the armed forces.

Cult of Mao

The Mao faction also organized the Red Guards, made up of millions of youth — mostly of high school and junior high school age. They served as a battering ram to attack Mao's foes, who were portrayed as plotting to restore capitalism.

The Red Guards were organized around a cult of Mao, which served to justify Mao's claims to virtually absolute power.

From 1966 to 1976, about 740 million copies of a small book entitled *Quotations from Chairman Mao* were brought into print and became a virtual bible of the cult.

"The attitude adopted toward the thought of Mao Tse-tung," declared an article in the June 7, 1966, *Beijing People's Daily*, "acceptance or resistance, support or opposition, affection or hatred, is the dividing line, the touchstone by which to distinguish authentic revolution from pseudo-revolution, revolution from counterrevolution, Marxism-Leninism from revisionism."

As intimidation mounted to force the population to back the cult, everything useful — from scientific progress to cooking techniques — was attributed to Mao's thought. "The people must study Mao's books, hear his words, and work according to his instructions," demanded the *People's Daily*.

Advocacy of democratic rights was decreed to be counterrevolutionary. The same newspaper denounced the motto "Liberty, equality, fraternity," originating in the French revolution of the 18th century, as today merely bourgeois and reactionary.

The first targets of the purge were playwrights and other authors whose works were suspected of indirectly criticizing Mao. In mid-1966, however, the purge extended to top leaders of the party. With the army backing up Mao's supporters, Beijing Mayor Peng Zhen was removed from office.

Campaign of terror

In August 1966 Lin Biao's army surrounded Beijing while a meeting of the party central committee adopted the call for a "Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution." The August 8 resolution authorized the organization of Mao's young backers into "Red Guards" and urged them to "struggle against and crush those persons in authority who are taking the capitalist road."

The Mao regime shut high schools and universities. Tsinghua University in Beijing, for instance, did not reopen until 1970, with a greatly reduced student body chosen primarily for loyalty to Mao. Many teachers and school officials were purged.

About 1 million Red Guards marched in Beijing August 18, singing, "The East is Red, the sun is rising, Mao Tse-tung has appeared in China."

During the following days, as police looked on, groups of youth rampaged. Waving portraits of Mao, they beat up individuals and destroyed books, phonograph records,



Chinese workers brandishing the little book of *Quotations from Chairman Mao*, a virtual bible of the Mao cult.

and works of art suspected of deviating from his thought.

The right of individuals to practice religious beliefs came under attack. The three Christian churches in Beijing were shut down, and Buddhist and Taoist temples were badly damaged.

Red Guard units arrested former army chief of staff Lo Jui-ching, Peng Zhen, and others. Liu and Deng and many more were swept from office and disappeared. Family members were targeted. Liu died in 1969, and Wang Kuang-mei, his wife, was imprisoned for some years.

Resistance to purge

In many areas, the purge ran into heavy resistance. Party and government officials in Shanghai sought workers' support against Mao by offering pay increases and other benefits. Opposition to the purge led to a wave of strikes. Shanghai and other cities were occupied by troops.

Officials targeted for removal sometimes backed Red Guard units opposed to Mao.

These clashed violently in Nanking, for example.

In Sichuan Province, sections of the army backed the opposition. Violent clashes in which many were killed took place in Wuhan, Canton, and other areas.

To drive through the Maoist purge and restore stability, the party and government administration in many areas was placed under "revolutionary committees" made up of Red Guards, military commanders, and party officials regarded as acceptable.

The Cultural Revolution effectively ended in 1969. Mao's role as arbiter over the bureaucratic machine had been entrenched, with the backing of Lin Biao and Chou En-lai, who had been premier since 1949. In the 1969 Communist Party constitution, Lin Biao was proclaimed to be "Mao's close comrade-in-arms and successor."

As part of bringing the upheaval to a close, 8 million youth in the Red Guards were compelled to leave the cities in 1968 and 1969. They were expected to spend the rest of their lives in the countryside, subjected to what was called "reeducation by the poor and lower-middle peasants."

The Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution shook the entire social fabric of China and dealt a huge blow to economic and cultural life. Tens of thousands were killed. Books became virtually unavailable, except for Mao's works and a few others. The number of periodicals published in China dropped from 1,300 to about 50.

Further purges maintained an atmosphere of intimidation. Chen Po-ta, who had been Mao's secretary and played a prominent role in the Cultural Revolution, disappeared. Later, he was officially denounced as an "anticommunist, a Trotskyist renegade, and a revisionist secret agent."

In 1971 an airplane carrying Lin Biao and members of his family was reportedly shot down as they attempted to flee to the Soviet Union. All passengers were reported killed. Some of those purged in the Cultural Revolution were permitted to return to prominent posts. In 1973 Deng was elected to the central committee and became deputy to Chou.

After Chou died in 1976 massive gatherings to honor him in Tiananmen Square became an outlet for opposition to repression and other policies. The protests appear to have had covert backing from officials sympathetic to Deng. On April 5 the army crushed the protests, and Deng was removed from his posts.

Mao died on Sept. 9, 1976. One month later, four key leaders of his faction were arrested. They included his widow Chiang Ching.

Deng soon reemerged as the central figure in the government, and sharp changes in economic policy followed.

The economic changes introduced under Deng Xiaoping during the 1980s will be the subject of the next and last article in this series.

(To be continued)

China killings protested in New York

BY MAREA HIMELGRIN AND VIVIAN SAHNER

NEW YORK — The morning of June 9, some 10,000 people gathered in a driving rainstorm in New York's Chinatown for a "Chinese-American Rally in Memory of the Martyrs on Tiananmen Square."

The heavy rain continued all day as did the demonstrations — traveling from Chinatown by subway to a protest at the United Nations, to a march across town ending at the Chinese mission to the United Nations.

Most of Chinatown shut down from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. to commemorate the students who had been killed in China. International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union Local 23-25 played a key role in organizing the event. Nearly 20,000 members of Local 23-25 work in the garment industry in Chinatown. Thousands were visible at the rally wearing ILGWU T-shirts and hats.

One young Chinese garment worker explained, "The union put out a leaflet and we spent three days building this memorial. We talked to everyone in our shop. We told them they had to come. The boss said if we wanted to leave work, it was okay. At the last minute, when they saw everyone else leaving, the women who we hadn't been able to talk into coming got up from their sewing machines and came with us."

A statement put out by Local 23-25 noted, "China is a proud country that has struggled hard to unify and modernize its large, diverse nation. The people of China — men and women, young and old — have been its great-

est asset in advancing from poverty and weakness to its important position in the world today."

The statement concluded, "Local 23-25 is deeply shocked and saddened by the strife and conflict of recent days and condemns the brutal shooting and mass murder of countless young people by Chinese government soldiers. This massacre of the young has shocked the world. Voices of protest come from every land."

"The ILGWU joins the international community in demanding an immediate end to the violence of the Chinese government against its own people. We assert our solidarity with all in China — students, workers, old and young — who demand the basic freedoms of the United Nations Universal Code of Human Rights and wish that peace and unity can be restored in China as soon as possible."

The children of many of the garment workers took off a day from school and joined the rally. They bought all the copies of the *Militant* brought by salespeople, and some expressed interest in a coming forum on China at the Manhattan Pathfinder Bookstore.

A student who attends the State University of New York at Stony Brook and who had himself worked in the garment industry said, "My family were peasants in China in a small village. The revolution brought us into the world and made China stronger. I want you to understand that this demonstration in Chinatown is not against the whole government of China."

At the UN the crowd grew to 20,000. Many of the participants were professionals —

businessmen, scientists, lawyers, and teachers of Chinese origin. In addition there were large numbers of students from Taiwan.

At this point the tenor of the action changed to a protest focused on demanding intervention by the UN and the U.S. government.

Many New York elected officials spoke at the rally. Queens Assemblyman Alan Hevesi, a Democratic candidate for city comptroller, got loud applause when he called the rulers in China "an outlaw government."

"I am a native New Yorker and an American," Hevesi began, "but today I am ashamed of my president." New York City Mayor Koch sharply denounced President George Bush for not being more forceful in his criticism of the Chinese government.

When U.S. Sen. Daniel Moynihan spoke and said that he was not ashamed of the U.S. government's response to the violence in China, he was booed off the stage.

During the cross-town march, the most popular chant was "China! Freedom! Long live democracy! Down with brutality!" A few times individuals added the chant, "Down with the Communist Party!" Some people joined in, but most ignored it.

Banners reflected a spectrum of political views from the right-wing U.S. group around Lyndon LaRouche and reactionary supporters of the Kuomintang — the Chinese nationalist movement based in Taiwan — to people carrying signs reading simply "Free press" and "Free speech," to the ultraleft U.S. Maoist organization the Revolutionary Communist Party.

Toronto airport crew won't service Continental

The International Association of Machinists struck Eastern Airlines March 4 in an effort to block the company's drive to break the unions and impose massive concessions on workers.

Backed by the 5,900 flight attendants and 3,400 pilots at Eastern the strike by 8,500 Machinists has crippled the

SUPPORT EASTERN STRIKERS!

airline's operations since then. It has also won broad support from working people in the United States and Canada. Readers — especially Eastern strikers — are encouraged to send news of strike solidarity activities to this column.

At Toronto's Pearson International Airport on June 1, a ground service crew of IAM members working for Hudson General Aviation Services refused to service a Continental Airlines plane that had landed, delaying service on the aircraft until airport officials found another crew to do the work.

The workers, members of Machinists Local 2416, refused to ser-

vice the plane "because it was a nonunion carrier, and they didn't want to touch a plane that had anything to do with Texas Air, Lorenzo, or Eastern Airlines," explained Local 2416 Chairman Bill Gallinger. Texas Air Corp., headed by Frank Lorenzo, owns both Continental and Eastern airlines.

Gallinger said the Continental flight was a surprise to the service crew, as it was not listed on their work sheets as an expected arrival. Their refusal to work on the flight held it up for five minutes at the ramp where passengers leave the plane.

"While five minutes may not seem like a lot of time," Gallinger said, "airlines pay by the minute for renting bridge space, and the work refusal cost Continental in-flight delay and extra rental costs."

The crew's refusal to service the plane was "an act of solidarity with the Eastern strikers," Gallinger said, adding that he considers the Eastern strike to be "a strike that affects all airline workers."

Hudson General has just informed its workers that Eastern will begin flying into Pearson International three times daily, beginning July 2. Gallinger said his union local will be meeting with Hudson management soon to express their unwillingness to service Eastern flights.

More than 1,000 unionists rallied in Miami June 6 to support Eastern Airline strikers and United Mine Workers on strike at Pittston Coal in Virginia and West Virginia. Most of those participating were International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union members, in town for the ILGWU's national convention. The second-largest contingent was striking members of the Machinists' union.

Rally participants carried signs in four languages — French, Spanish, Chinese, and English — with slogans saying, "Fly union, ground Lorenzo."

Speakers included ILGWU President Jay Mazur, IAM State Council President Frank Ortis, Ron Baker of the United Mine Workers, and Sandra Mickle of the Transportation Workers Union, which represents Eastern flight attendants.

Support for the Eastern strike was an important feature of the ILGWU convention. Delegates passed a resolution encouraging strike support work, and urging members to support IAM picket lines.

"To see pilots and garment workers, hand in hand, is to see the labor movement's ability to transcend the different strata in labor," explained one delegate.

"We are determined to stand shoulder to shoulder with the Eastern strikers."

In the strike office in Kansas City, Missouri, there is a "solidarity" wall where letters to the strikers and union cards are posted.

Among them is a letter signed by 44 meat-packers. "We the undersigned are workers at the Armour meat-packing plant in South Kansas City," the letter says. "We would like to express our solidarity with your fight, as it is our fight too. We are fighting to get a union back in our plant, just like you are fighting to keep yours. Stay strong and don't retreat. United we stand, divided we fall!" There are about 200 workers at Armour.

"Six years ago, Armour Foods was sold to ConAgra, and the union was busted, so meat-packers are familiar with Lorenzo's schemes," said Gary Stonelake, a member of the United Food and Commercial Workers union organizing committee in the plant. Circulation of the letter has added to discussion in the plant about the need for a union, he added.

On June 7 the first meetings were held by the United Food and Commercial Workers union organizing committee at Armour. Striking Eastern Machinist Nick Angeles spoke at both day and evening

meetings, at the invitation of the meat-packers.

In Los Angeles, building is stepping up for the June 17 "Solidarity Rally for Eastern Airline Strikers," to be held at Los Angeles International Airport beginning at 10:00 a.m. in Parking Lot "C."

Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers Local 1-547 at the Chevron refinery is distributing a flier publicizing the rally. "We are please to report that close to \$500 was raised at the Chevron plant-gate collection for the Eastern strikers' food bank," says a letter from the Chevron Workmen's Committee on the back of the leaflet. "They need our solidarity now more than ever in their fight to keep the airline (and any parts of it that are sold off) union organized."

IAM District 720, which organizes two of the three big McDonnell Douglas aerospace plants in the Los Angeles area, voted at a district delegates' meeting June 6 to donate \$1,000 a week to the strike for the next five weeks. They also ordered 500 "Stop Lorenzo" buttons and 2,000 stickers to distribute to other union members.

Rosemary Ray from Toronto; Elsa Blum, a member of ILGWU Local 188 in Milwaukee; and Geoff Mirelowitz from Los Angeles contributed to this column.

Rally against Eastern flights set in Philadelphia

BY RONI McCANN

PHILADELPHIA — Eastern Airlines announced on June 5 that it will be starting up three flights a day from here to Atlanta on July 2. Eastern's operations here, as in the rest of the country, have been paralyzed since March 4 when nearly 18,000 Machinists' union members, pilots, and flight attendants went on strike.

A number of strikers began discussing the resumption as soon as the announcement was made. Several emphasized the importance of a strong show of force on the picket lines that day at Philadelphia International.

"There are almost 1,200 International Association of Machinists members in this area alone," one striker said. "If we could get them out it would really be great."

In response to Eastern's plans, striking

Machinists at IAM Local 1776 are organizing a rally at Eastern's Terminal C for early morning on July 2. The rally will let people know our strike is still strong," one striker explained.

'Everybody's watching strike'

"Morale is good," the local's chief strike coordinator, C.A. O'Brien, told the *Militant*. "Obie," as his fellow strikers know him, is also the recording secretary and has worked at Eastern for 30 years as a ramp serviceman.

"Everybody is watching this strike," he said, "even people not affiliated with this union or any union. When you wear your button they ask you how's it going. It gives you a good feeling that this fight isn't going on for nothing. People out there support this strike."

He went on to explain that this has been the case in the greater Delaware Valley area.

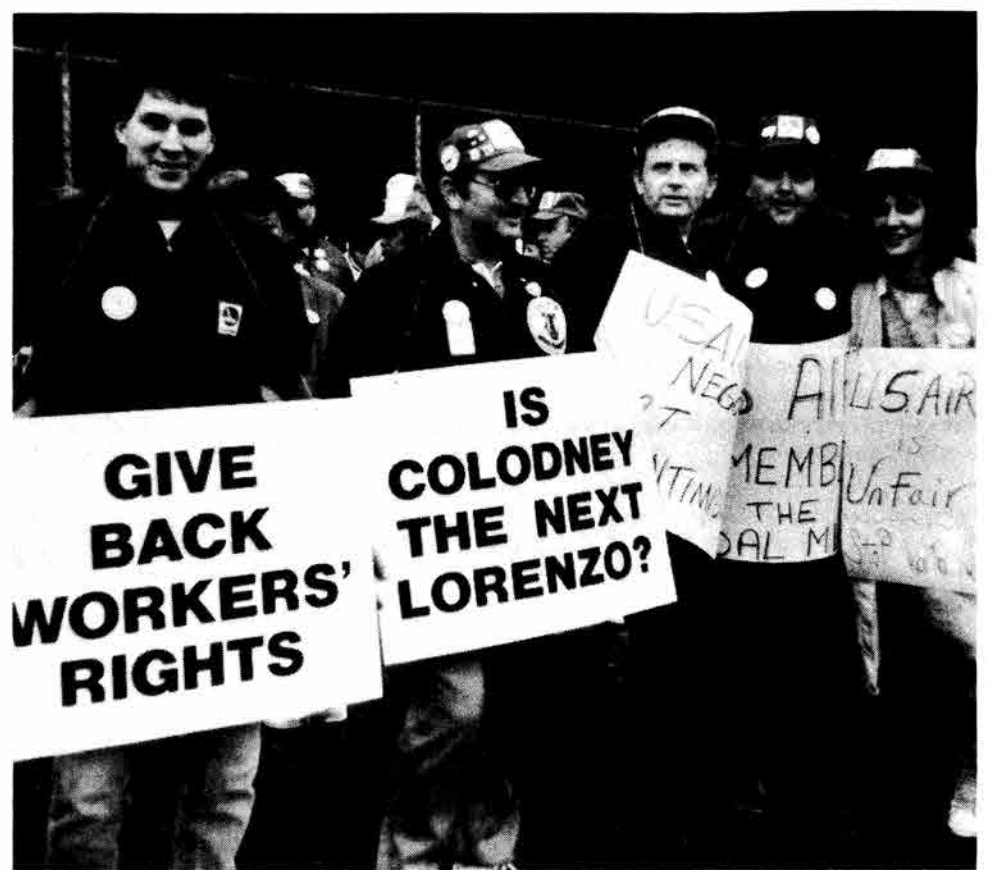
Unions in the region have helped out on the picket lines, invited strikers to speak, and participated in food drives.

Strikers will tell you that even small acts of solidarity, such as coming down to the picket line with pizzas or doughnuts — which happened a lot early in the strike — shows the support the strike has, and are always welcome.

The Machinists, pilots, and flight attendants themselves place a high priority on reaching out for solidarity. IAM member Ken MacDonald, head of the Health and Welfare Committee, has kept busy organizing food drives to help sustain the strikers and their families, including a number of flight attendants, who receive no strike benefits. He described the successful collection last month at 20 garment shops in the city organized by the Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers Union.

Speakers bureau

The speakers bureau set up by Machinists early in the strike has played an important role in winning support. Strikers call area unions and set up speaking engagements where Machinists, pilots, and flight attendants go to tell their story. To date they have been to more than 100 meetings of unions and community organizations. They have spoken to Greyhound bus drivers, steelworkers, railroad workers, auto workers, roofers, teachers, garment workers, cement masons, boilermakers, and many more. One Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers local at British Petroleum has in-



Militant/Josefina Otero
Rally in May at Philadelphia's International Airport supports Teamsters union member fired for solidarity with strikers at Eastern Airlines.

vited Eastern strikers to speak every month until the strike is settled. BP workers themselves were on strike last year for more than five and a half months.

Phil Harris, one of the strike coordinators who heads up the speakers bureau, explained the bureau's usefulness. "Other unions and organizations are able to get a feel for our strike," he said. Strikers become more motivated through their participation in the bureau and by hearing the experiences of their fellow strikers at the union meetings. "This gives everyone a true perspective on how strong our strike really is," Harris stressed.

On June 8 strikers spoke to more than 100 members of Health and Hospital Workers Local 1199c. Many of the local's contracts with area hospitals expire at the same time in early July. Several hospital workers expressed how inspired they were to have the Eastern strikers present at their meeting.

Machinists union member Cathy Brady

gave a presentation about the 14-week-old battle at Eastern. She encouraged the hospital workers to help out on the picket lines or however they could. She introduced two other strikers who were with her. They distributed "Stop Lorenzo" stickers and the union's strike fact sheet. They all received several rounds of applause and money was raised for the strike.

Brady, 33, has worked at Eastern for 13 years. She was one of four women on the ramp and has spoken about the strike to unions and at a regional Coalition of Labor Union Women conference, along with other strikers.

Brady was also part of a delegation of Eastern strikers from Philadelphia who went to the April 9 march in Washington, D.C., for abortion rights.

In her talk to the hospital workers, Brady pointed out, "What Lorenzo is trying to do, every corporation will try to do if we don't stop them now."

Everyone in the room nodded in agreement.

'Militant' reporters to speak at forums on Eastern strike

Roni McCann and Peter Thierjung will be featured speakers at Militant Labor Forums in Los Angeles and the San Francisco Bay Area June 24. They recently joined the *Militant* staff and have been currently reporting on Eastern strike activities in Miami, Philadelphia, and Washington, D.C.

The forums are entitled, "The Stakes in the Strike at Eastern Airlines." In Los Angeles, the meeting featuring McCann will be held at 2546 West Pico Boulevard at 7:30 p.m.

The Bay Area forum, with Thierjung as speaker, will be held at 7:30 p.m., at a location to be announced.

After the forums, there will be social events to send off McCann and Thierjung, who have been leading socialist political activists in Los Angeles and Oakland respectively, to their new roles as *Militant* reporters based in New York. The socials will raise funds for the *Militant*.

For more information, in Los Angeles, call (213) 380-9460; in Oakland, (415) 420-1165; and in San Francisco, (415) 282-6255.

Eastern strikers map plans to protest renewal of some flights

Continued from front page
struck Eastern 15 weeks ago, the airlines' operations rapidly ground to a halt.

Since then, only about 10 percent of Eastern's usual 1,040 daily flights have been getting off the ground, many of them virtually empty.

Of the 100 or so flights that have been taking off, 64 were from the New York-Boston-Washington, D.C., shuttle, and about 35 were flights in other parts of Eastern's system.

With the shuttle's sale to New York real estate and gambling casino speculator Donald Trump, the scab and management pilots who have been flying the shuttle flights are now being shifted over to the flights Eastern is trying to resume. In addition, Eastern says 51 new pilots have graduated from its training classes.

Part of the company's reorganization plan is to revive its Atlanta hub, building to 82 flights to 26 cities by July 2.

To lure passengers onto the resumed flights, Eastern has slashed fares drastically. At Newark and New York's La Guardia airports, strikers report that Eastern has attracted some more passengers on these cheap flights.

Strikers are confident of their ability to keep the airline grounded, however, despite the new flights.

"We're rolling along," said Ray, an aircraft cleaner with 17 years at Eastern. He and about 20 other Machinists, pilots, and flight attendants were part of the high-profile picket line at Eastern's gates at La Guardia June 13. "We've accomplished what we set out to do — we've shut the airline down. The solidarity is here," he added, pointing to the rest of the pickets and a few shamefaced passengers trying to squeeze by the picket line into the terminal.

Other strikers agreed. Several explained that despite the company's claims, Eastern would be unable to train enough pilots to get even a trimmed-down version of the airline going again soon. "As long as the pilots don't cross the picket line," said one pilot, "they won't make their schedule."

Eastern says it is trying to get 1,700 pilots by December, through training and hiring. The carrier has had only about 200 pilots since the strike started — 100 or so ALPA members who crossed the picket lines and about an equal number of pilots from management.

Other strikers point out that the sale of the shuttle and Lorenzo's attempt to restart some flights has caused some confusion. "Some people may even think the strike is over," said Ernest Mailhot, a member of IAM Local 1018's strike committee at La Guardia. "That's why it's important to step up the strength and visibility of our picket lines and other activities now, to make sure everyone knows our strike is on and it's strong."

No IAM contract yet at shuttle

Meanwhile, as of June 15, striking Eastern Machinists who went to work at the Trump Shuttle still have no contract. "We're supposed to be paid Friday, June 16, and no one knows what we'll be getting," said one IAM member at La Guardia, where the shuttle is based.

On June 8 the New York-Boston-Washington, D.C., shuttle began flying as the Trump Shuttle. Trump bought the operation from Eastern for \$365 million.

Last fall, after the financier agreed to buy the shuttle, Eastern workers from throughout the system were asked to apply to work for Trump. Out of those who applied, about 800 were hired, on the basis of their seniority at Eastern.

When the strike began March 4, however, workers throughout the Eastern system walked out, including those who had been hired to work for Trump. The sale of the shuttle itself was held up for several months until final approval was given in late May by the court overseeing Eastern's bankruptcy proceedings.

As the shuttle was readied to start up under the new ownership, pilots and flight attendants were told that Trump had agreed that they would be working under the same wages and conditions they had at Eastern before the

strike started. "The current contract will go for six months, and then be reopened," explained one Transport Workers Union member after a few days of working for Trump. "As of now, things seem to be okay." The TWU is the flight attendants' union.

AirLinePilots Association officials, however, agreed to Trump's request for a 90-day relaxation of work rules for the pilots.

But IAM members — who work as ramp service workers, aircraft cleaners, and stock clerks — were not presented with a contract proposal.

As the deadline to report for work neared, they were told by union officials that an agreement was imminent and they should report for work. Although some workers were upset and angry at this decision, the picket lines were pulled down, and everyone went in.

There is concern among Eastern strikers and Trump workers about the impact of having gone back to work without knowing — and agreeing to — the wages and conditions they would be expected to work under.

"This is a divide and conquer tactic," said one striker on the La Guardia picket line June 13. "You have to wonder how sincere Trump is if there's no contract."

Sandy, a ramp worker with nearly 11 years at Eastern, thought the sale of the shuttle was "not good."

"First, it gave \$365 million to Lorenzo," he said. "It also freed up pilots to begin flying other flights. And they [IAM members] shouldn't have gone back without a contract — they should know what they're getting. This way, you know right from the beginning that Trump is lying."

Yvonne Perez-Grajales, an IAM shop steward who worked as an aircraft servicer at Eastern, reported after a few days of working for Trump that cross-utilization of workers has begun. This means ramp service workers are cleaning and servicing aircraft, and cleaners are doing ramp work.

"But we still don't know our rate of pay," she said. Workers have also not seen a seniority list yet.

At their June 9 meeting, Local 796 members voted to organize a women's day on the picket line for June 25. Machinists plan to reach out to nurses, teachers, other airline workers, women's organizations, strikers' families, and others for this event.

"We have to step up our visibility now, because people may be confused by the start-up of the Trump Shuttle," said one Local 796 member. "We don't want people to get the impression that the strike is over at Eastern." The strikers have set getting support to reinforce the picket line as a key goal now since a number of strikers have gone to work at the Trump Shuttle, and because Eastern is planning to increase its flights.

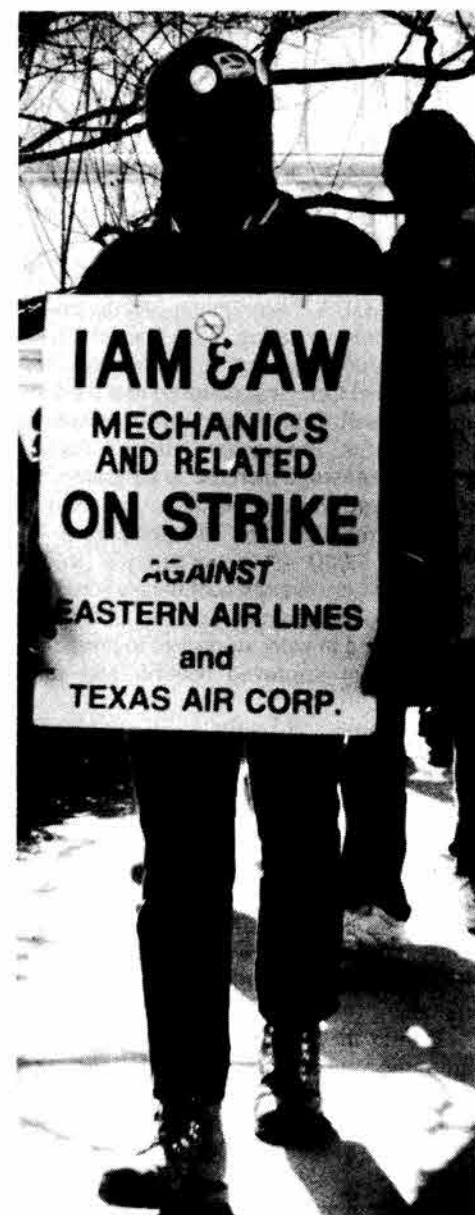
D.C. shuttle workers uneasy over going to work without IAM contract

BY PETER THIERJUNG

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The new Trump Shuttle began operations here June 8. National Airport, located in this area, is the southern station for hourly flights on the New York-Boston-Washington, D.C., route.

In the media, Trump has portrayed his successful bid for the shuttle as a victory not only for himself, but for workers as well. Some Trump workers and Eastern strikers don't agree. They point to Trump's delay in signing a contract agreeable to the IAM as evidence.

"Months ago, Trump ordered new uniforms, gate renovations, and did other things to get the shuttle going again," said one Eastern striker. "If Trump was really concerned about the workers, he could also have signed a contract before starting up," she emphasized.



Militant/Nancy Brown
On the picket line, Washington, D.C.'s National Airport.

One TWU member who has been a leading activist in the strike at La Guardia and who has also started working for Trump said, "If they had kept the line up for another day, they would have had an agreement." She is concerned that some of the people most active in the strike have gone to work for Trump. "That will have an effect," she said. She plans to stay involved, though, and often comes in after work to help out. "I'm not through with Lorenzo yet," she stressed.

"What is happening to the Machinists at Trump, where they were told to go back in without a contract, has harmed the strike and the union," said Local 1018 member Mailhot. "It's the first time that there has been a break of any kind in our unity, and it sets a dangerous precedent."

"We have to press for a contract now, one that the Trump Machinists can read, discuss, and decide on — including rejecting any proposals that are unacceptable," he continued.

"All the strikers — at Eastern and at Trump — are in this battle until all of us have won what we're fighting for. We can't allow any part of us to be divided off."

"Many of the strikers now working at Trump have made it clear that they view themselves as much a part of the strike as ever," Mailhot said. "After three months in the thick of the battle at Eastern, they will be a force for Trump to reckon with."

"No contract, no work" was the general sentiment among D.C. IAM members before June 8. Many striking pilots and flight attendants agreed.

Some pilots were angry that Trump had not signed an agreement with the Machinists. Other shuttle workers were disappointed and uneasy about returning to work. Reports of a tentative agreement with Trump temporarily allayed workers' fears until they learned from local IAM officials that the agreement was only verbal and that details could not be made known at this time.

The new Trump workers expressed their continuing support for the strike at Eastern. Some immediately walked the picket line outside National Airport wearing their new Trump uniforms. "We can't get real excited about going back to work knowing that we still have people out on the line," said one flight attendant.

'Eastern strike is like 15-round prize fight'

BY PETER THIERJUNG

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The strike at Eastern Airlines is getting stronger — that's the word from members of International Association of Machinists Local 796 members here at National Airport.

"It's like a 15-round prize fight," said one Local 796 member who worked on the ramp before the strike. "We've taken some blows, but so has [Texas Air Corp. Chairman Frank] Lorenzo. It's surprising — over the last few weeks, our members have stepped up their picketing, and our support is increasing."

Picket lines are up from 6:00 a.m. until 10:00 p.m., the airport's hours of operation.

Every day, a contingent of young workers from the Harry Lundeberg School of Seamanship in Maryland travel nearly two-and-a-half hours to get to the picket line. The seamen bring lunch for the pickets and walk the line for several hours. Their support has been a big morale booster.

Twelve-year-old students from Shaw Junior High School joined the picket line when their school field trip was canceled. Five of them marched up and down the line chanting, "Ride the bus. Ride the train. Dump Lorenzo down the drain!" The students, one of whose father is a striker, are very aware of the issues in the Eastern fight.

Pickets report that "Stop Lorenzo" stickers are very popular, and thousands have been distributed to passengers and workers at the airport. Security guards have been caught removing the stickers from cars in the airport parking lots.

Striking Machinists-miners tour

Recently, striking Eastern workers from D.C. and Pittsburgh teamed up with union miners on strike at Pittston and New Beckley coal companies for a tour of Appalachia. The tours helped mobilize for the June 11 March for Justice strike solidarity rally in Charles-

ton, West Virginia, and win new support for their fights.

Thousands of dollars were collected for the strikers at plant-gate collections. The touring unionists discussed the collection with union officials at the target plant in advance. Through word-of-mouth and leaflets posted in the plant, workers were informed of the planned collection. On the designated day, strikers were at the plant gate with cans to collect contributions.

United Steelworkers' union members at Armco Steel in Ashland, Kentucky, contributed more than \$3,000 in one day's collection. Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers union members at Ashland Oil gave more than \$1,000 that same day.

There is discussion now among the Eastern strikers here about how to step up this kind of solidarity work in the D.C. area.

'I can't just stay home'

The D.C. strikers have two food banks. The Machinists' bank provides food for about 70 families each week. The United Food and Commercial Workers and Teamsters unions have helped the IAM with food supplies. The Machinists often share collected surplus food with the flight attendants, who have their own food bank.

Hughie Kelly, an IAM member with 21 years at Eastern, explained how he goes about securing food stocks each week, getting help from other unions, and dealing with business people.

"This keeps me busy through the entire week," Kelly said. When asked if he had any previous experience organizing a food bank, Kelly replied, "I helped organize a union picnic five years ago, but that's it."

Two other IAM members and a striker's wife have joined Kelly in organizing the bank. "This strike is not something that just affects my husband," she said. "It affects the entire family, so I can't just stay at home."

Nicaragua: gains for teachers announced

President Ortega meets with 1,400 in wake of work stoppage

BY SETH GALINSKY

MANAGUA, Nicaragua — At the end of an eight-hour meeting with teachers from around the country May 31, Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega announced that the government will grant some improvements in their benefits. The teachers will also share in a 14 percent wage increase to be granted all government workers in June. Inflation in May was reported to be 13.5 percent.

Some 3,000 of the country's 36,000 schoolteachers, members of the National Association of Nicaraguan Teachers (ANDEN), had engaged in work stoppages to press their demands for improved benefits and wage increases.

The increased benefits announced by Ortega include more hardship pay for rural teachers, free transportation to and from work, and coverage of 100 percent of the cost of eyeglasses, instead of the current 50 percent.

In addition, Ortega promised that there would be a "reclassification" of teachers' wage levels, in other words a wage increase, if inflation declines sufficiently in the coming months.

During the week leading up to Ortega's announcement, numerous meetings were held between teachers and representatives of the Ministry of Education, ANDEN, and the Sandinista National Liberation Front (FSLN).

Government, ANDEN, and FSLN representatives suggested that teachers form committees to visit local industries, government institutions, and farm cooperatives to ask for donations of products and money and to seek aid with transportation.

'Not enough for tortillas'

At a May 24 meeting at the Rigoberto López Institute in Managua, which did not join the strike, teacher Orlando Delgado complained that teachers' wages "don't even stretch far enough to buy tortillas."

Marbel Guerrero, who has taught at Rigoberto López for five years, agreed. "We are aware of the economic crisis the country faces," she said. "But if we brought down the salaries of officials who are making over a million [córdobas] a month, maybe there would be something left over for us."

Guerrero had another suggestion that has been raised by other teachers. "Why not tax all productive industry and agriculture — private, state, and mixed — half a percent or 1 percent, and turn that over for education?" she asked.

Union leaders oppose strike

The strike was opposed by officials of the progovernment unions. Guillermo Martínez, ANDEN president, issued a statement condemning "the strike and those who promote it."

Napoleón Villarte, spokesperson for the Sandinista Workers Federation (CST), said, "We believe there are other methods of struggle teachers should have used instead of the strike." The stoppage "benefited the enemies of the workers," he said.

The CST, Villarte continued, "makes a distinction between those workers who thought the strike was the way to defend their interests, and those who encouraged the workers to support the stoppage."

Teachers themselves expressed a wide range of views on the strike. At a meeting to seek support from parents in Chinandega, one striking teacher told the *Militant*, "Our demands are union demands, not political." She added, "We are for the revolution and have faith in the revolutionary process."

The commission elected by striking teachers in Chinandega, which is 75 miles northwest of here, put out a statement calling on teachers to resign from ANDEN. But many strikers disagreed. "Put down in your paper that we are *Andenistas*," one teacher said.

At a May 29 meeting in San Rafael del Sur to discuss ending the strike there, one teacher who took the floor said, "We are going to demonstrate to the FSLN that we are mature and have a high level of consciousness. By returning to the classrooms, we are going to prove that we are not being manipulated."

Meeting with Ortega

Fourteen hundred teachers packed the convention center in Managua for the May 31



Teachers' meeting in San Rafael del Sur, southwest of Managua, discusses ending strike action. Some 3,000 of country's 36,000 schoolteachers began work stoppage May 22 to demand improved benefits and wage increases.

meeting with President Ortega. There were teachers present from every part of the country, including the Atlantic Coast.

The first speaker at the open mike was Miriam Corrales, a teacher from Estelí.

"Why are we called contras when we ask for higher wages?" Corrales asked. "We have been at the forefront of mobilizations to end illiteracy, to vaccinate children, and to defend the revolution. We ask that we be given the recognition we deserve as educators."

Some teachers condemned those who had participated in the work stoppages. "The strike is a crime against the people," one said.

A teacher from Managua declared, "We cannot blame all of our problems on the war. There is another war we must wage here, a war against bureaucracy."

Ortega closed the meeting after listening to presentations by 30 teachers.

"Imperialism, the newspaper of the National Guard, and the *somocista* parties say there is no war," Ortega stated. "They say it is an invention of the Sandinistas to justify the errors that are committed in the economic and social fields."

But the war is not over, Ortega said, and it is still a fundamental cause of the economic problems Nicaragua faces.

The FSLN does not "promote a society of rich and poor, we defend people's power, the power of the working people," the president said. But "we promote a mixed economy," he added.

'The rich aren't in power'

"Power is not in the hands of the rich, but the economy functions in such a way that there are rich people and poor people."

The ideal, Ortega told the meeting, would

be for everyone to earn the same. But, he asked, "Do you think Nicaragua could assimilate this type of measure at this time?"

Nicaragua's government is carrying out International Monetary Fund-type measures, Ortega said, referring to belt-tightening moves that have been implemented over the last year. In other countries these measures are done to maintain power in the hands of the bourgeoisie, he added, but here "we do it to defend the people's interests."

Ortega said that both ANDEN President Martínez, and Fernando Cardenal, minister of education, had created false expectations among teachers by pressing for a wage increase. "And they sent me a letter asking for the raise when I had already told them it was not possible," he continued.

There are teachers who are ex-somocistas, Ortega stated, who are trying to take advantage of the situation. He charged that members of opposition parties and former members of Somoza's National Guard were prominent in Chinandega, San Rafael del Sur, and in the schools in Managua that participated in the strike.

Ortega: Strike 'inconsequential'

Nonetheless, Ortega said, the government did not have to declare the strike illegal, because the majority of teachers did not join in this "inconsequential movement."

At the end of his talk, Ortega announced the measures taken to meet the teachers' demands. Teachers should not think that it was this meeting that won the 14 percent wage adjustment, he said. "We had decided this beforehand."

Ortega promised there would be more meetings with teachers to "improve communication" with the government.

Marta Pérez, a teacher from San Rafael del Sur, felt "the actions are positive. We got most of what we wanted."

Angelina Rodríguez, a leader of striking teachers in Chinandega, said, "At least he gave us something." She said she expected the strike in Chinandega would end the next day.

One teacher at the Maestro Gabriel Institute in Managua said, "Maybe the work stoppage was not correct, but it made sure we were heard."

New leaders of Nicaragua women's group

'Barricada' interview with AMNLAE's Doris Tijerino

At a May 8 assembly of leaders of the Nicaraguan Women's Association — Luisa Amanda Espinoza (AMNLAE), changes in its leadership were announced. The new acting president of AMNLAE is Doris Tijerino, a longtime leader of the Sandinista National Liberation Front (FSLN). Tijerino will also remain in her current position as chief of the Sandinista Police.

Tijerino's appointment was announced by Bayardo Arce, a member of the National Directorate of the FSLN. A new national executive committee was also announced. In addition to Tijerino, it includes Bertha Arguello, Mónica Baltodano, Haydee Castillo, and Ivonne Siú.

Tijerino said she will remain as acting president until AMNLAE holds a national assembly sometime "before the end of the year." A national women's assembly initiated by AMNLAE had originally been planned for March 8 but was postponed.

Lea Guido, outgoing AMNLAE president, will begin working for a development project, according to *Barricada*, the FSLN daily.

In the following interview, published in the May 16 *Barricada*, Tijerino discusses her views of the challenges AMNLAE faces.

The proclamation on the situation of women that Tijerino refers to was presented by the National Directorate of the FSLN on March 8, 1987, at a national gathering of AMNLAE. It was published in the May 22, 1987, issue of the *Militant*. The FSLN's 1969 Historic Program, to which Tijerino also refers, is printed in *Sandinistas Speak*, a Pathfinder collection available for \$6.95.

The interview translation is by the *Militant*.

* * *

Question. Why is a women's movement necessary in a society like Nicaragua's?

Tijerino. The struggle of women in Nicaragua has historical roots. This struggle began in the time of the Indians. In the 1960s, women's organizations were begun, among which we could mention the Patriotic Women's Alliance. With the growing integration of women into the national liberation struggle, this became stronger and AMPRONAC [Association of Women Confronting the National Problem] was organized. This meant a qualitative leap, organizationally.

AMPRONAC registered the incorporation of Nicaraguan women individually, and even more so, collectively, into the FSLN. In 1970 Luisa Amanda Espinoza was killed. She became the symbol of the woman guerrilla fighter.

AMPRONAC was an organization that defended the interests, aspirations, and struggles of Nicaraguan women within the framework of the class struggle in Nicaragua. Women's participation in the taking of political power was undeniable.

AMNLAE is the new name that was given to the women's organization after the triumph. With the development of the work of women and the analysis of achievements and mistakes, one could see the need for turning the organization into a movement that would involve women's social action independent of their sector, workplace, and the position they hold; whether they are professionals, workers,

housewives, peasants, market vendors, or merchants — wherever women are present.

It is also necessary to point out that we women are 52 percent of the Nicaraguan population, and our activity is obvious. Therefore the necessity for the movement is undeniable.

We should also remember that beginning in 1969 the FSLN raised women's emancipation in its Historic Program. And 20 years later this subject is still relevant and important, and continues to be valid. In other words, at the same time that society develops, and that the revolution develops, woman's emancipation must develop. Therefore, it is clear that the women's struggle is not a struggle just of women, but of the whole society.

This does not mean that since 1979 there have not been great achievements in legislation, in women's incorporation into work and training, in their political development, in their participation in various organizations, in the leadership and decision-making in companies, state institutions, and the National Assembly, and in the fight for women's own specific demands. But we have not achieved everything, and it is necessary to keep on fighting and consolidating the conquests that have already been won.

Q. How are women from different sectors integrated into the movement?

Tijerino. Every woman who works with revolutionary consciousness, with the consciousness of being a woman, with efficiency and quality, and who demonstrates the capacity to carry out her tasks — we are all AMNLAE. The market woman who carries

Continued on Page 13

Mark Curtis' case against the Des Moines cops who beat him

Brief in his lawsuit demanding damages

Packinghouse worker and political activist Mark Curtis filed a lawsuit May 11 charging several Des Moines police and the City of Des Moines with violating his constitutional rights. The cops beat him on the night of March 4, 1988, in a city jail. Earlier that evening, Curtis had been arrested on phony rape charges.

In a September trial, he was convicted in the frame-up, which then included burglary charges as well, and was later sentenced to 25 years' imprisonment. He is now incarcerated at the Iowa State Men's Reformatory in Anamosa, Iowa.

Below is the text of the civil rights suit brief, which was filed in the federal court for the Southern District of Iowa by Curtis' attorneys, George Eichhorn and Bill Kutmas.

* * *

Introductory statement

1. This is a civil rights suit for actual and compensatory damages and in punitive damages against the City of Des Moines, Iowa; certain members of the Police Department, including Officer Daniel Dusenbery and Officer Charles R. Wolf; and other John Doe officers.

This complaint alleges that the defendants violated the constitutional and statutory rights of the plaintiff to be free from unreasonable searches and seizures, infringed upon the plaintiff's liberty interest, infringed upon the plaintiff's right to reasonably safe conditions while incarcerated, right to be free from violence and threats of violence while incarcerated, infringed upon the plaintiff's liberty interest in personal security, subjected the plaintiff to cruel and unusual punishment, and

infringed upon the plaintiff's right of association.

In addition, this complaint also advances state claims for negligence and assault and battery.

[Paragraphs 2-9 of the introductory statement concern the jurisdiction of the federal court, venue for the suit, and residency and status of the parties in the suit.]

Factual background

10. That plaintiff is a union and political activist in the Des Moines, Iowa, area and is known by the defendants and other members of the law enforcement community.

11. That on about March 4, 1988, the plaintiff was arrested by officers of the defendant, the City of Des Moines, Iowa, and was transferred to the City of Des Moines jail for alleged crimes.

12. That the plaintiff had received a degree of notoriety in the City of Des Moines, Iowa, both within and outside of the Des Moines Police Department and jail.

13. That the plaintiff was known for his political activities and union activities including, but not limited to, his participation in civil rights protests against the City of Clive, Iowa, Police Department's request in or around February 1988 for residents of a neighborhood to report any Black man seen in the area at night, and his organizing opposition to the arrests of 17 coworkers, suspected of being undocumented immigrants, at Swift/Monfort Packing Co. on or about March 1, 1988.

14. That on the night of his arrest, plaintiff had met with coworkers concerning the activities at Swift/Monfort Packing Co. and the federal immigration raid thereon.

15. That the plaintiff was known, in part, from various files and computer information including, but not limited to, files of the FBI for plaintiff's political activities to which the defendants had access.

16. That the plaintiff was known, in part, by the political leaflets in his possession at the time of his arrest.

17. That the plaintiff was known, in part, for the allegations concerning the crime of which he was charged.

18. That at all times material to the attack alleged herein, plaintiff was a pretrial detainee in the City of Des Moines, Iowa, jail facilities.

19. That during the processing of the plaintiff at the City of Des Moines, Iowa, jail facilities, the defendants, Dusenbery and Wolf, took the plaintiff into a small room ostensibly to remove the plaintiff's clothes.

20. That while in the small room the defendants, Dusenbery and Wolf, interrogated and attempted to verbally intimidate, harass, and embarrass plaintiff including, but not limited to, suggesting plaintiff has AIDS.

21. During said interrogation, plaintiff demanded to see a lawyer, but his request was ignored and the defendants continued in their abusive and/or unconstitutional conduct.

22. That after collecting all of plaintiff's clothes, and during the aforementioned interrogation, the defendants — Dusenbery and Wolf, and other John Doe officers — attacked plaintiff while he was naked in a small room of the police station hitting him in the face and about the body until plaintiff was unconscious.

23. That at or about the time of the attack, the defendant, Dusenbery, stated, "You're one of those Mexican-lovers, just like you love those coloreds."

24. The defendants — Dusenbery, Wolf, and other John Doe officers — caused severe injuries including a blowout fracture of the eye socket, multiple lacerations about the face, numerous bruises and contusions on his face, jaw, neck, abdomen, legs, ankles, and other injuries.



Militant/Stu Singer

Mark Curtis the day after his mauling by Des Moines cops in city jail

25. That during the remainder of his detention other unknown officers of the Des Moines City Police Department subjected plaintiff to statements, characterizations, and/or conduct which further demonstrated a deliberate indifference to the rights of the plaintiff.

26. That after the assault and beating the defendants filed false charges against the plaintiff accusing him with assault.

27. Said charges were designed, in part, to cover up the defendants' actions against the plaintiff.

28. That as a result of the misconduct hereinbefore described, plaintiff experienced personal injury; humiliation; emotional distress; pain and suffering; incurred expenses, including reasonable and necessary medical, hospital, and doctor expenses; loss of wages; legal fees; and was otherwise injured and damaged.

29. On information and belief, the abuse and misconduct to which plaintiff was subjected was not an isolated incident and was consistent with an institutionalized practice of the City of Des Moines Police Department, which was known to and/or ratified by the defendants and the City of Des Moines, Iowa; the defendants having at no time taken effective action to prevent such attacks upon the plaintiff and other similarly incarcerated persons.

30. On information and belief, the defendant, the City of Des Moines, Iowa, authorized, tolerated as an institutionalized practice and/or ratified the misconduct hereinbefore detailed by:

a. In failing to take adequate precautions in training officers and jailers, including specifically the defendants herein, in the proper handling and incarceration of the plaintiff and other incarcerated persons;

b. In failing to take adequate precautions in training officers and jailers, including specifically the defendants herein, to process incarcerated persons without the unnecessary and unreasonable expression of hatred, animosity, violence, and excessive force by said officers and jailers;

c. In failing to take adequate precautions in training officers and jailers, including specifically the defendants herein, to prevent uncontrolled and unmonitored interrogation and confrontational tactics by said officers and jailers whereby said officers and jailers use said interrogation and confrontational tactics as a pretext for the expression of unnecessary and unreasonable hatred, animosity, violence, force, and excessive force;

d. In failing to adequately and appropriately respond to previous situations of uncontrolled and unmonitored interrogation and confrontational tactics which resulted in the expression of unnecessary and unreasonable hatred, animosity, violence, force, and excessive force;

e. In failing to adequately and appropriately respond to previous situations of violence, force, and excessive force between police officers and incarcerated persons; and,

f. In authorizing, tolerating, and ratifying the use of criminal assault charges against incarcerated persons in situations of the expression of unnecessary and unreasonable hatred, animosity, violence, force, and excessive force.

31. That the misconduct of the defendants

as alleged herein demonstrates a deliberate indifference to the known rights of the plaintiff.

32. As a consequence of the misconduct, customs, and usages detailed herein, plaintiff has damages as herein described.

First claim

1. The plaintiff realleges and incorporates hereto Paragraphs 1-32 of the complaint as if fully set forth herein.

2. At all times relevant hereto, the actions complained of by defendants — Dusenbery, Wolf, and other John Doe officers — were performed under the color of state law and at the direction of the defendant, the city of Des Moines, Iowa.

3. The above-described actions and conducts of the defendants were in violation of the First — freedom of association; Fourth — freedom from unreasonable search and seizures; Fifth — due process; Eighth — cruel and unusual punishment; and Fourteenth — due process/violation of liberty interests, Amendment rights of the plaintiff.

4. It is the policy and custom of the defendant, the city of Des Moines, Iowa, to foster, condone, and/or sanction behavior as aforesaid.

5. By reason of defendants' actions, the plaintiff has experienced personal injuries, humiliation, emotional distress, pain, and suffering, and will continue in the future to be so injured.

6. By reason of defendants' actions, the plaintiff has lost income and paid bills he otherwise would not have incurred.

7. That the actions of the defendants above described were willful, malicious, intentional, and deliberate, and contrary to the known or reasonably known constitutional rights of the plaintiff, thereby entitling plaintiff to both an award of actual damages, and punitive damages against the individual officers.

Wherefore, the plaintiff respectfully demands judgement against the defendants for a declaratory judgment that said conduct, customs, and usages are unconstitutional, for actual and compensatory damages in the amount of \$150,000, and for punitives against the defendant officers in the amount of \$150,000, together with attorney fees, interest at the legal rate, and the costs of this suit.

Second claim — negligence

1. The plaintiff realleges and incorporates hereto Paragraphs 1-32 of the complaint as if fully set forth herein.

2. The actions of the defendants — the City of Des Moines, Iowa, Dusenbery, Wolf, and other John Doe officers — as set out above, were negligent in one or more of the following particulars:

a. In failing to exercise due care in the incarceration of the plaintiff;

b. In failing to exercise due care for the safety and security of an incarcerated pretrial detainee;

c. In failing to exercise due care in the adoption and implementation of training programs and policies for the protection of incarcerated pretrial detainees such as the plaintiff;

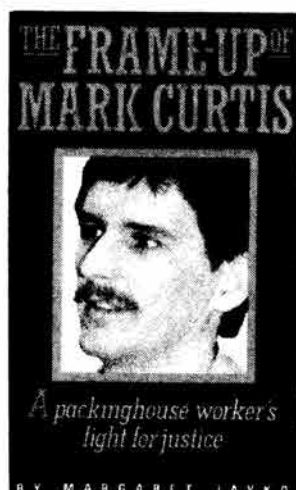
d. In failing to exercise due care in the

Continued on Page 13

from *PATHFINDER*

The Frame-up of Mark Curtis A Packinghouse Worker's Fight for Justice by Margaret Jayko

This pamphlet tells the story of Mark Curtis, a unionist and fighter for immigrant rights, who is serving a 25-year sentence in an Iowa prison on trumped-up rape charges. 71 pp., \$2.50.



Available at Pathfinder bookstores listed on page 12 or by mail from Pathfinder, 410 West St., New York, N.Y. 10014. (Please include \$.75 for postage and handling.)

Daily sales teams join Eastern strike pickets

BY SUSAN APSTEIN

NEW YORK — Who will buy Eastern Airlines? Will it be a better deal than with Frank Lorenzo? How can support for the strike keep growing? What will the startup of the

bank at La Guardia, a mile from strike headquarters. "It was a Tuesday, nearly the 90th day of the strike, and the judge in the bankruptcy court was just about to rule on who could buy Eastern," she

high-spirited" picket line the next day at the Eastern shuttle at La Guardia — with 15 Machinists, pilots, and flight attendants.

He talked for a long time with a Machinist — James — who hadn't heard about the West Virginia solidarity activities but thought this was exactly what was needed. He decided to take out an introductory subscription to the *Militant*.

"We talked about how important support from the whole labor movement is, especially when pressure comes down in negotiations — that it's much easier to stay out if you know you're not alone."

On Thursday June 1, Mark met Michael and Marvin, two Pittston coal miners from West Virginia, on the shuttle picket line. "Both, maybe 29 or 30, have been working in the mines since high school."

Mark went with them to a meeting of the flight attendants. The more than 100 strikers there gave the miners an "enthusiastic reception," along with five members of the Swedish Transport Workers' Union here on a fact-finding trip about the strike at Eastern.

On Wednesday the seventh Meryl went by the shuttle. "It was 8 o'clock at night and they were revamping

everything — signs, masking on airplanes — making the changeover from Eastern to Trump. The whole place was filled with landscape trucks."

She joined the picket line in front of Continental Airlines at the main terminal and talked with several Machinists about what the new shuttle would mean for the strike.

Everyone saw the strikers who'd be going to work there as carrying the fight forward. "In fact," she said, "they were planning to go over to the shuttle later that night to be there to support the new workers as they went in."

But as far as Eastern goes, "Those planes aren't going to fly" is what workers at strike headquarters were telling us.

Brigitte met Alina, an Eastern flight attendant, walking the picket line early in the week at La Guardia.

"We talked about Argentina. She lived there for a while and knew a lot about why people have been forced to break into supermarkets just to get something to eat. She said the foreign debt Argentina has to pay means that people are starving."

Her experience seeing how people in Argentina have fought and the repression that they have had to face

has helped her in the fight at Eastern, she said.

"She really likes the *Militant's* coverage of the strike and said, 'Keep it up.'"

Later in the week Brigitte joined a couple of strikers in greeting Cathy and Claire, both flight attendants, as they came off work at the Trump Shuttle after their first day back. A "Trump Shuttle" banner covered the enormous Eastern Air Shuttle sign above the building. "They came out saying the fight is still on at the new shuttle airline."

Jerry was at the strike headquarters at La Guardia the next day.

"A ramp service worker I spoke with said that, to him, the most amazing thing about the strike has been the people — some of whom you never expected — who have come forward to lead and organize." He had a subscription to the *Militant* but bought a copy to give to a friend, Jerry said. "He said he thought a lot of the *Militant* because it's the one paper that understands the strike isn't over. It's here, it gives you the facts, it's part of the fight."

In these two weeks, 30 single issues of the paper were sold as well as five subscriptions.

SELLING OUR PRESS AT THE PLANT GATE

Trump Shuttle mean for the strike? And what is happening in China? In Argentina?

In the past two weeks supporters of the *Militant* in New York, Brooklyn, and Newark have talked to the workers in the thick of the big labor battle at Eastern — on the picket lines, at the food bank, and in strike headquarters at Kennedy, La Guardia, and Newark airports.

They are organizing teams to go out to the airports daily — to walk the picket lines and show their solidarity in as many ways as possible, to learn more about the walkout, and to introduce strikers to the *Militant* and to the Spanish- and French-language magazines *Perspectiva Mundial* and *Lutte ouvrière*.

Maggie went to the strikers' food

said, "so everyone was talking about what would happen."

She got to the food bank about noon and spent the day with "some of the people who had a big hand in setting it up" — eight strikers who were there to help the 50 or so people who came by to pick up food that day.

The solidarity march and rally Eastern strikers were organizing with Pittston coal miners in West Virginia was coming up in 12 days on June 11. "Jennifer and Mary, both aircraft cleaners at Eastern, were excited about a big public event like this, with Jesse Jackson, that could win more support for the strikes. They were talking about driving down for the rally in Charleston."

Tom walked a "confident and

Readers worldwide pay tribute to 'Lutte ouvrière'

BY SYLVIE CHARBIN

MONTREAL — "In paying tribute to the socialist magazine *Lutte ouvrière*, I would like to tell you that it plays an indispensable role in helping us correctly assimilate revolutionary theory." Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso

"Your magazine is an effective tool for the political education of every left-wing activist. I guarantee you that I will make sure other revolutionary fighters read it." Port-au-Prince, Haiti

"Your publications are of colossal interest to me. The gospel of the 'oppressed' that they spread, and especially the 'revolutionary consciousness' that they awaken, inspire in me an ardent desire to subscribe." Newark, New Jersey

"Congratulations for *Lutte ouvrière*. It is a news magazine that has already become indispensable to educating and helping the workers in the struggle." Lyon, France

Last fall *Lutte ouvrière* appeared in its new, 28-page monthly magazine format along with the third issue of *Nouvelle Internationale*, a magazine of Marxist politics and theory. These are a few of the many similar reactions to the two publications.

Lutte ouvrière and *Nouvelle Internationale* are mainly distributed in Canada and the United States. But nearly 40 letters have come into their editorial offices from outside of North America.

Lutte ouvrière reflects the point of view of the Revolutionary Workers League. Its first goal is to help build a communist party in Canada. Since there are 6 million francophones in Canada, French-language socialist publications are essential.

Lutte ouvrière publishes many articles on the class struggle in Canada while explaining the links between these struggles and those of the exploited and oppressed in the rest of the world.

But *Lutte ouvrière* also translates into French some of the most important articles

from the *Militant*. It also publishes many of the most important speeches by world communist leaders such as Fidel Castro from Cuba and Thomas Sankara from the West African country of Burkina Faso who was murdered in 1987.

Increased circulation

Since its change of format from an eight-page bimonthly newspaper to a 28-page monthly magazine, subscriptions to *Lutte ouvrière* have increased by almost 120 percent and single sales by more than 400 percent.

So far, the two best-selling issues of *Lutte ouvrière* have been the December 1988 issue that included a major speech by Fidel Castro and prominently displayed his photo on the front page, and the May 1989 issue, which featured an article on the struggle to defend the rights of the oppressed French-speaking majority in Québec.

One factor that has boosted circulation of *Lutte ouvrière* and *Nouvelle Internationale* was the recent international subscription campaign. Four hundred subscriptions to *Lutte ouvrière* were sold in Canada, Britain, New Zealand, Sweden, and the United States.

More than 260 *Lutte ouvrière* subscriptions were sold in the United States, mostly to the large number of workers of Haitian origin who live in the major cities of the East Coast.

At the Newark, New Jersey airport, *Lutte ouvrière* and *Militant* sales teams have met Haitian taxi drivers who collectively study articles from *Nouvelle Internationale*.

Lutte ouvrière is a quality magazine that is expensive to produce. Income from sales only covers part of its real production costs.

New offices

On July 1 the *Lutte ouvrière* editorial offices will be moving to a more central Montréal location. The same address will also provide more spacious facilities for the Path-



Literature table at Revolutionary Workers League conference held in Montréal over last New Year's weekend.

finder Bookstore and the regular public meetings of the Forum Lutte Ouvrière.

In the spirit of the voluntary work brigades that are building housing, hospitals, and child-care centers in Cuba, teams of volunteers are building walls, installing wiring and plumbing, and painting the new Montréal offices.

The increasingly multinational composition of the working class in Canada is reflected in these teams.

For example, one worker from Lebanon

has already put in several days of volunteer work, even though he often works six days a week on his regular job. Yves-Antoine Richard, the general secretary of the Independent Federation of Haitian Workers also gave three half-days of his busy schedule during a recent visit to Québec. He said he was pleased to put his hands to work in building what he termed "this house for working people."

Workers and students born in Canada, Chile, El Salvador, Britain, Mexico, South Korea, Turkey, and the United States have also participated in the volunteer construction work, which has so far involved more than 50 people.

But construction materials are expensive. A fund drive to cover the costs of the move and part of *Lutte ouvrière's* operating costs was launched May 15. The goal of the drive is to raise \$20,000 by July 15. So far, Cdn.\$7,662 has been collected, including US\$250 sent by two subscribers in the United States.

Whether or not you speak or read French, by contributing today you can help *Lutte ouvrière* continue to get out the truth to French-speaking workers and farmers around the world. Send your contribution to *Lutte ouvrière*, C.P. 340, Succ. R, Montréal, Québec, Canada H2S 3M2.



FEATURED in the JUNE-JULY ISSUE

The fight to defend Mark Curtis

By John Gaige. The stakes in the international campaign against the political frame-up of packinghouse worker Mark Curtis.

Big stakes in the struggle against Eastern

By Susan Ericson. After more than three months on the picket lines, this strike remains a major challenge by working people to the employing class in North America.

Available in Pathfinder bookstores listed on page 12 or by subscription. Four-month introductory subscriptions: US\$5 • Can.\$5 • 30 FF. Send check or money order. U.S., Caribbean, Latin America, Pacific: 410 West St., New York, NY 10014 USA. • Canada: C.P. 340, succursale R, Montréal, Québec H2S 3M2, Canada. • Africa, Europe, Middle East: 47 The Cut, London SE1 8LL, England.

**Lutte
ouvrière**
a socialist
monthly
magazine
in French

Eastern strikers join miners in W. Virginia rally

BY RONI McCANN

CHARLESTON, W. Va. — Thousands of United Mine Workers members and their families poured into Laidley Field football stadium here in the early morning hours of June 11. They were assembling for the March for Justice — the biggest labor demonstration in West Virginia in more than 15 years.

Hundreds were strikers at Pittston Coal Group and New Beckley Mining Co. mines in Virginia and West Virginia.

UMWA members — who came from at least nine districts of the union — were joined by striking Eastern Airlines Machinists, pilots, and flight attendants from Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Detroit, Cleveland, and New York.

The March for Justice was sponsored by the West Virginia Labor Solidarity Committee to back striking coal miners and Eastern workers.

Hundreds of other International Association of Machinists members from around the state also attended, along with members of some 60 other unions. Hospital workers, teachers, government workers, refinery workers, and many other unionists were

there. Six busloads of steelworkers from northern Virginia came to the demonstration.

The June 11 events capped a 12-day tour by striking miners and Eastern workers throughout the region. The miners had also organized two four-day marches leading into Charleston that retraced historic union-organizing battles in 1912 and 1921.

On Saturday night, June 10, the two marches arrived in Charleston, and a rally was held that drew nearly 500 miners, Eastern workers, and supporters. "The response from the miners has been great, overwhelming! We're proud to be here," said an Eastern striker from Pittsburgh.

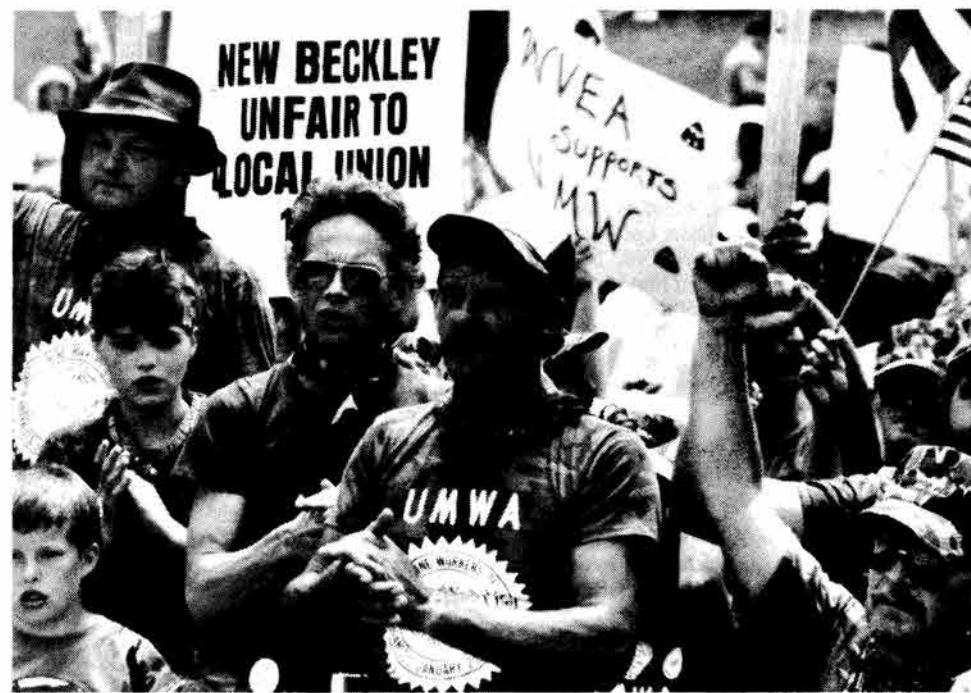
Early Sunday morning, June 11, the hundreds of Virginia miners arrived at the rally site. Chanting "UMW—IAM—all the way," they marched into the football stadium to the cheers of other unionists.

A little later, several buses pulled in, and a group of Eastern workers got off. They joined up with Eastern strikers already there, and together the contingent marched into the assembly area. Miners and others lined both sides of the way, shaking their hands.

From Laidley Field, the demonstrators marched to the state capitol grounds, where a rally was held. The march was led by a contingent of striking miners and Eastern workers, who walked behind a West Virginia AFL-CIO banner. The street to the capitol was filled; estimates of the crowd ranged from 7,000 to 12,000.

Speakers at the rally, which lasted for more than three hours, included Communications Workers of America President Morton Bahr; National Organization for Women Vice-president Sheri O'Dell; Joyce Miller, president of the Coalition of Labor Union Women; IAM President William Winpisinger; West Virginia Gov. Gaston Caperton; and Jesse Jackson, Jr., who took his father's place on the program.

Mine Workers Vice-president Cecil Rob-



Militant/Matt Munroe

June 11 rally. The biggest labor demonstration in West Virginia in 15 years.

erts chaired the rally. There is a "great struggle going on in the coal mines," he said. The message of today's rally, he told the miners, is "you are not alone."

A high point of the rally was the talks given by Pittston, New Beckley, and Eastern strikers. "Eastern Airlines has been shut down and is shut down today!" said flight attendant Sandra Palmer to big applause. Solidarity accomplished this, she told the crowd.

Jim Bowen, president of United Steelworkers District 23, presented the miners with \$10,000 for their strike fund. They had also made a donation to the Eastern strikers, he said.

A Chinese student studying at West Virginia University also spoke. When it comes to democratic rights, there are no guarantees, he said. "We have to fight to get them, and then we have to fight to keep them."

There were many other young people present at the rally, including from the UMWA Students Auxiliary in Virginia, founded a month ago to support the Pittston strikers.

The closing address was given by Mine Workers President Richard Trumka. Strikers and others who had gone to find some shade or refreshments hurried back, and the crowd grew quiet.

In the days before the June 11 march and rally, headlines in the daily press here specu-

lated about what action the mine union would take to back the Pittston and New Beckley miners. "UMW plans to announce drastic action," was the headline on the June 10 *Charleston Daily Mail*. There was a mood of anticipation in the crowd when Trumka spoke.

He described the attacks on the miners' union from the coal bosses, courts, and state government. "Labor is tired of having its rights trampled on," he said.

"It's time to fight back," the union president said to thunderous applause. "It's time we started taking a stand. Every time they push labor, we push back! Are we going to let our union brothers and sisters at Eastern get walked on?"

He outlined Pittston's final offer to the mine union, which included a 60 percent reduction in labor costs and unlimited overtime.

"As of today, we're not only on strike against Pittston," he declared as thousands of strikers cheered, clapped, and raised clenched fists. "We're on strike against the entire state of Virginia and any politician that's on the side against us."

Trumka called for continued peaceful resistance. Pittston strikers and supporters have been organizing peaceful sit-ins at mine entrances. Several thousand have been arrested since the strike started.

Miners' strike spreads in coalfields

Continued from front page

strike at Pittston. The strike began just hours after Mine Workers President Richard Trumka addressed a labor rally here June 11.

He announced that miners would "strike the state of Virginia" until the courts reverse their massive fines against the union and release three leaders of the Pittston strike who are being held in jail in Roanoke, Virginia.

In Logan County, West Virginia, where there are two struck Pittston mines, 2,000 miners walked out of 150 mines.

In Boone County, mines owned by Ashland Oil, A.T. Massey, Westmoreland Coal, and Island Creek Coal are shut down.

More than 2,300 miners have halted production at Peabody mines in four counties.

At Consolidation Coal's Rowland mine in Raleigh County, 250 miners walked out at 12:01 a.m., June 12. Consolidation, a subsidiary of DuPont, immediately filed a complaint in U.S. District Court accusing Local 1330 of violating a no-strike clause in the national contract between the Bituminous Coal Operators Association and the Mine Workers.

On Monday, June 12, Judge Dennis Knapp granted the company a temporary restraining order, enjoining the miners from picketing and ordering them back to work.

Despite Monday's injunction, miners at the Rowland mine stayed off the job.

Also on Monday roving pickets shut down three union mines in eastern Kentucky suspected of filling orders for Pittston.

On Wednesday, 650 Westmoreland miners walked off the job in southern Virginia. That day, more than 100 miners held a mass picket at the New Beckley mine in West Virginia, which has been on strike since January. Also that day, miners set up pickets at some non-union mines, including the giant Appalachian Mining strip operation near Charleston.

Striking miners throughout southern West Virginia are organizing and mobilizing to extend the strike. Teams of miners are picketing and having discussions with union members at mines that have not yet gone out. They are planning protests in Virginia to demand freedom for jailed union leaders and are organizing rallies and other events for later in the week.

Liz Sommers, a striking Peabody miner and member of UMWA Local 2271, summed up the feelings of many miners. She told the *Militant*, "It's about time we all came out. We all have a stake in the outcome of this strike. It's not right that Pittston miners should have to fight on their own. I want to do my part."

Court rulings undermine affirmative action

Continued from front page

court has ruled ever since that statistical evidence of discrimination is sufficient to prove a company's employment practices are illegal unless the employer can show these practices are justified as a "business necessity." Many lawsuits have been won based on this precedent.

The June 5 Supreme Court ruling effectively reverses this. It relieves employers of having to justify their hiring and promotion policies and instead puts the burden on those filing the lawsuit.

After having produced statistical evidence demonstrating that employment policies have a discriminatory impact, the plaintiffs also have to prove that the employer had no business-related justifications for the challenged practices. The inherent difficulties in mustering such proof are a big obstacle to lawsuits combating job discrimination.

The court majority opinion was written by Justice Byron White and was joined by Chief Justice William Rehnquist, and justices Antonin Scalia, Sandra O'Connor, and Anthony Kennedy.

The court dealt with the fact that it was contravening a clearly established 18-year precedent in such cases by saying its previous rulings had been misunderstood.

A misunderstanding?

"We acknowledge that some of our earlier decisions can be read as suggesting otherwise," wrote White. "But to the extent that these cases speak of an employers' 'burden of proof' with respect to a legitimate business justification defense," he continued, "they should have been understood to mean" that while employers must produce evidence of a business justification for challenged employment practices, they are not required to prove anything. It is the

plaintiffs who now must disprove the employers' claims.

If the workers are unable to rebut the evidence produced by the employers to the satisfaction of the court, wrote White, then they must come up with alternative employment practices that would generate less discriminatory results.

White also argued that to go along with the notion that statistics showing racial or sexual disproportion in employment are, in and of themselves, proof of discrimination "would almost inexorably lead to the use of numerical quotas in the workplace, a result that Congress and this court have rejected repeatedly in the past."

White's opinion upheld the company on all its key arguments. While he didn't explicitly overrule the landmark 1971 Supreme Court decision, he significantly weakened it. In the four-justice dissent, Stevens wrote that the majority was "tipping the scales in favor of the employers."

In a separate dissent, Judge Harry Blackmun wrote, "One wonders whether the majority still believes that race discrimination — or, more accurately, race discrimination against nonwhites — is a problem in our society, or even remembers that it ever was."

Birmingham firefighters

One week later, the Supreme Court ruled, 5-to-4, that court-approved affirmative action settlements are open to subsequent legal challenges.

Written by Judge Rehnquist, the majority decided that white firefighters in Birmingham, Alabama, are allowed to challenge an eight-year-old, court-approved settlement intended to increase the number of Blacks hired and promoted in the department.

In 1974 the local chapter of the National

Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), backed by the federal government, sued the city of Birmingham on the grounds that Blacks were being discriminated against in hiring and promotion in the fire department.

A settlement was reached after several years, and a consent decree was entered. Under the decree, Blacks and whites would be hired and promoted in equal numbers until the proportion of firefighters who are Black approximated the proportion of Blacks in the labor force overall.

Several months later, a group of white firefighters sued the city, charging that the consent decree discriminated against them. The Supreme Court majority has upheld the white firefighters, finding that a consent decree is only binding on those that were part of the original lawsuit.

This decision, which is the opposite of all but one previous lower court ruling on this issue, means that under the banner of "reverse discrimination" — a term Rehnquist used in his decision — affirmative action programs can be subjected to an unending stream of hostile litigation.

Discriminatory seniority systems

While placing no time limits on lawsuits opposing affirmative action plans, in a second ruling the same day the court placed a restrictive, 300-day time limit on legal challenges to discriminatory seniority systems.

The 5-to-3 decision dismissed a lawsuit filed under the Civil Rights Act by three women who worked at an American Telephone and Telegraph Co. plant in Aurora, Illinois. They were demoted during the recession in 1982 as a result of a dual-seniority system adopted three years earlier that allowed women to be fired or demoted before men. The court said their 1983 lawsuit had been filed too late.

ARIZONA

Phoenix

The Strike at Eastern Airlines: A Fight for All Working People. A discussion with Wally Mills and Gerald Watson, members International Association of Machinists Local 2559 on strike at Eastern; Rena Cacoullos, Socialist Workers Party, member United Food and Commercial Workers Local 99R; others. Translation to Spanish. Sat., June 17, 7 p.m. 1809 W Indian School Rd. Donation: \$3. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (602) 279-5850.

FLORIDA

Miami

Capitalism in Crisis: A Working-Class Approach to Confront the Social and Economic Crisis. Speaker: Thabo Ntweng, Socialist Workers Party candidate for mayor of Miami. Sat., June 24, 7:30 p.m. 137 NE 54th St. Donation: \$2. Sponsor: Socialist Workers 1989 Mayoral Campaign. For more information call (305) 756-1020.

GEORGIA

Atlanta

U.S. Hands Off Panama! Sat., June 17, 7:30 p.m. 132 Cone St. NW, 2nd floor. Donation: \$2.50. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (404) 577-4065.

ILLINOIS

Chicago

Rally for Choice. Keep abortion safe and legal. Sat., June 17, 2 p.m. Daley Plaza, Dearborn at Washington. Sponsor: Illinois Campaign for Choice. For more information call (312) 427-7330.

Defending Abortion Rights! A panel discussion following demonstration at Daley Plaza. Sat., June 17. Open house, 5 p.m.; program, 6 p.m. 6826 S Stony Island Ave. Donation: \$3. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (312) 363-7322 or 363-7136.

One People, One Destiny: The Caribbean and Central America Today. Speaker: Don Rojas, secretary for propaganda and information, Anti-Imperialist Organizations of the Caribbean and Central America; former press secretary to Grenada's assassinated prime minister Maurice Bishop. Translation to Spanish. Thurs., June 29, 6:30 p.m. Center for Inner City Studies, Northeastern University, 700 E Oakwood. For more information call (312) 268-7500 or 363-7322.

MARYLAND

Baltimore

Eyewitness Report on Political Situation in Panama and Threat of U.S. Intervention. Speaker: Cindy Jaquith, *Militant* correspondent recently returned from Panama. Sun., June 25, 4 p.m. 2913 Greenmount Ave. Donation: \$2. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (301) 235-0013.

MASSACHUSETTS

Boston

Seabrook, Pilgrim: Why Working People Should Oppose Nuclear Power. Speakers: Ann Arnold, representative Citizens at Risk; Mark Emanation, Socialist Workers Party; representative Clamshell Alliance. Translation to Spanish. Sat., June 24, 7:30 p.m. 605 Massachusetts Ave. Donation: \$3. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (617) 247-6772.

MINNESOTA

St. Paul

Report Back and Slideshow from 20th Anniversary Venceremos Brigade. Speakers: Mary Jo Doyle and David Carey, participants in brigade. Sat., June 24, 7:30 p.m. 508 N Snelling Ave. Donation: \$2. Sponsor: Militant Forum. For more information call (612) 644-6325.

NEBRASKA

Omaha

Workers' Stake in Eastern Fight. Speaker: Joe Swanson, Socialist Workers Party, member United Steelworkers of America Local 3166. Sat., June 17, 7:30 p.m. 140 S 40th St. Donation: \$2. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (402) 553-0245.

NEW YORK

Brooklyn

Walkathon for the People of Palestine. Walk for solidarity with the people of Palestine, Palestinian self-determination, the independent state of Palestine. Sat., June 24, 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. Meet at John Paul Jones Park, under Verrazano Narrows Bridge. Rally at Atlantic Ave. and Court St. at 5 p.m. Sponsor: Palestine Aid Society. For more information call (718) 833-1892 or (212) 385-4233.

Manhattan

Rally to Free Joe Doherty. Speakers: Frank Durkan, Dorothy Hayden, Congressman Thomas Manton, Mary Pike. Sat., June 17, 1 p.m. march from Battery Park; 2 p.m. rally in Thomas Paine Park, Foley Sq. Sponsor: National Committee For Joseph Doherty.

Victory to SWAPO. Farewell salute to South West Africa People's Organisation of Namibia delegation to the United Nations, departing for Namibia after exile. Sat., June 24. Reception 8-10 p.m., addressed by Helmut Angula, SWAPO's chief representative to the UN; 10 pm.-2 a.m., party, music provided by D.J. Bernard White. District 65, United Auto Workers, 13 Astor Pl. Sponsors: African National Congress; Friends of ANC, SWAPO, and Frontline States; American Committee on Africa; others. For tickets or information call (212) 690-7180.

OHIO

Cleveland

Eastern Strike: What's At Stake for Working People. Speaker: representative Socialist Workers Party. Sun., June 25, 7:30 p.m. 2521 Market Ave. Donation: \$2.50. Sponsor: Militant Forum. For more information call (216) 861-6150.

OREGON

Portland

Timber Monopolies vs. Working People—The Fight to Protect Jobs and the Environment. A panel discussion on the log-export referendum, fight to protect old forests, and how to defend jobs. Sat., June 24, 7:30 p.m. 2730 NE Martin Luther King, Jr. (formerly Union). Donation: \$2. Sponsor: Militant Forum. For more information call (503) 287-7416.

WASHINGTON, D.C.

Eyewitness Report on Political Situation in Panama and Threat of U.S. Intervention. Speaker: Cindy Jaquith, *Militant* correspondent recently returned from Panama. Sat., June 17, 7:30 p.m. 3165 Mt. Pleasant NW. Donation: \$3. Sponsor: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (202) 797-7699.

Behind the Demonstrations and Massacre in Tiananmen Square

Militant Labor Forums on the recent events in China.

CALIFORNIA

Oakland

Speakers: Kevin McGuire, freelance journalist in China May 26 - June 5 covering pro-democracy movement, eyewitness to the protests and crackdown, member District 65, United Auto Workers; George Johnson, Socialist Workers Party, member UAW, interviewed Peng Shu-tse, founding member of the Chinese Communist Party, has traveled throughout and written extensively on Asia. Translation to Spanish. Sun., June 18, 4 p.m. 3702 Telegraph Ave., Donation: \$2. For more information call (415) 420-1165.

FLORIDA

Miami

Speaker: Nancy Cole, Socialist Workers Party. Translation to Spanish. Sat., June 17, 7:30 p.m. 137 NE 54th St. Donation: \$2. For more information call (305) 756-1020.

MARYLAND

Baltimore

Speaker: Fred Feldman, *Militant* staff writer, Socialist Workers Party. Sat., June 17, 7:30 p.m. Dinner, 6 p.m.; program, 7:30 p.m. 2913 Greenmount Ave. Donation: \$2. For more information call (301) 235-0013.

MASSACHUSETTS

Boston

Speaker: Don Gurewitz, Socialist Workers Party, recently visited China. Sat., June 17, 7:30 p.m. 605 Massachusetts Ave. Donation: \$2. For more information call (617) 247-6772.

MICHIGAN

Detroit

Speaker: Mark Friedman, Socialist Workers Party, member International Association of Machinists, visited China in 1987; others. Sat., June 17, 7:30 p.m. 5019 1/2 Woodward Ave. Donation: \$3. For more information call (313) 831-1177.

mation call (202) 797-7699.

BRITAIN

Liverpool

Cuba Slideshow. Speaker: Tim Rigby, member GMBATU, recently returned from fact-finding trip to Cuba. Mon., June 26, 7:30 p.m., Merseyside Trade Union Council Resource Centre, 24 Hardman St. Sponsor: New International Forum.

London

Fighting for the Future: Communist League Post-election Meeting. Speakers: Doreen Wepler, Communist League European Parliament candidate and member National Union of Railwaymen; Larry Cotton, member National Executive NUR; Jonathan Silberman, Communist League election agent. Fri., June 23, 7:30 p.m. Rose and Crown Public House, Colombo St. (off Blackfriars Rd.), London SE1. Donation: £1. Sponsor: Communist League. For more information call 01-401-2293.

MINNESOTA

Austin

Speaker: Argiris Malapanis, Socialist Workers Party. Translation to Spanish. Sat., June 17, 7:30 p.m. 407 1/2 N Main St. Donation: \$2. For more information call (507) 433-3461.

NEW YORK

Manhattan

Speaker: Doug Jenness, editor of the *Militant*. Sat., June 17, 7:30 p.m. 191 7th Ave. For more information call (212) 675-6740 or (718) 398-6983.

OHIO

Cleveland

Speaker: Scott Ware, Socialist Workers Party. Sun., June 18, 7:30 p.m. 2521 Market Ave. Donation: \$2.50. For more information call (216) 861-6150.

TEXAS

Houston

Speaker: Randy Warren, Socialist Workers Party, member United Steelworkers of America. Sat., June 24, 7:30 p.m. 4806 Alameda. Donation: \$2. For more information call (713) 522-8054.

WEST VIRGINIA

Charleston

Speaker: Andrew Pulley, Socialist Workers Party, member Rubberworkers International Union. Sat., June 17, 7 p.m. 116 McFarland St. Donation: \$2. For more information call (304) 345-3040.

Morgantown

Speakers: Bo Peng, a leader of the Chinese Students Association, West Virginia University; Patricia Sánchez, Socialist Workers Party, member United Steelworkers of America. Sat., June 17, 7:30 p.m. 221 Pleasant St. Donation: \$2. For more information call (304) 296-0055.

tion: £1. Sponsor: Communist League. For more information call 01-401-2293.

Sheffield

Justice for Mark Curtis. Speaker: Marcus Emmerson, member National Union of Railwaymen. Wed., June 21, 7:30 p.m. at Sheffield and District Afro-Caribbean Community Association, 48 The Wicker. For more information call 0742-583641. Sponsor: New International Forum.

IRELAND

Dublin

Cuba and Angola: Victory Against South Africa. Video presentation of "The Response to the South African Escalation," a Cuban documentary on the battle of Cuito Cuanavale, Angola. Speakers: Louise Asmal, Anti-Apartheid Movement; representative Ireland-Cuba Friendship Society. Mon., June 26, 7 p.m. Dublin Resource Centre, Crow St. Sponsor: Pathfinder Press.

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ILLINOIS: Chicago: 6826 S. Stony Island Ave. Zip: 60649. Tel: (312) 363-7322.

INDIANA: Muncie: c/o Brian Johnson, 619 1/2 N. Dill St. Zip: 47303. Tel: (317) 747-8543.

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MARYLAND: Baltimore: 2913 Greenmount Ave. Zip: 21218. Tel: (301) 235-0013.

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MICHIGAN: Detroit: 5019 1/2 Woodward Ave. Zip: 48202. Tel: (313) 831-1177.

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NEW JERSEY: Newark: 141 Halsey. Zip: 07102. Tel: (201) 643-3341. **New Brunswick:** c/o Keith Jordan, 149 Somerset St. Zip: 08903. Tel: (201) 828-1874.

NEW YORK: Brooklyn: 464 Bergen St. Zip: 11217. Tel: (718) 398-6983. **Mid-Hudson:** Box 1042, Annandale. Zip: 12504. Tel: (914) 758-0408. **New York:** 191 7th Ave. Zip: 10011. Tel: (212) 675-6740.

NORTH CAROLINA: Greensboro: 2219 E

Market. Zip 27401. Tel: (919) 272-5996.

OHIO: Cleveland: 2521 Market Ave. Zip: 44113. Tel: (216) 861-6150. **Columbus:** P.O. Box 02097. Zip: 43202.

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TEXAS: Houston: 4806 Alameda. Zip: 77004. Tel: (713) 522-8054.

UTAH: Price: 253 E. Main St. Mailing address: P.O. Box 758. Zip: 84501. Tel: (801) 637-6294. **Salt Lake City:** 147 E 900 South. Zip: 84111. Tel: (801) 355-1124.

WASHINGTON, D.C.: 3165 Mt. Pleasant St. NW. Zip: 20010. Tel: (202) 797-7699, 797-7021.

WASHINGTON: Seattle: 5517 Rainier Ave. South. Zip: 98118. Tel: (206) 723-5330.

WEST VIRGINIA: Charleston: 116 McFarland St. Zip: 25301. Tel: (304) 345-3040. **Morgantown:** 221 Pleasant St. Zip: 26505. Tel: (304) 296-0055.

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Toronto: 410 Adelaide St. W., Suite 400, M5V 1S8. Tel: (416) 861-1399.

Vancouver: P.O. Box 69742, Station K, V5K 4Y7. Tel: (604) 873-8898.

ICELAND

Reykjavík: Klappartíg 26. Mailing address: P. Box 233, 121 Reykjavík. Tel: (91) 17513.

NEW ZEALAND

Auckland: 157a Symonds St. Postal Address: P.O. Box 3025. Tel: (9) 793-075.

Christchurch: 593a Colombo St. (upstairs). Postal address: P.O. Box 22-530. Tel: (3) 656-055.

Wellington: 23 Majoribanks St., Courtenay Pl. Postal address: P.O. Box 9092. Tel: (4) 844-205.

SWEDEN

Stockholm: P.O. Box 5024, S-12505 Älvsjö. Tel: (08) 722-9342.

The environmentalists — The metal box that carries the nuclear warhead for the Lance missile



Harry Ring

bears the stenciled notice: "Reusable container. Do not destroy."

Still shaking the big stick — Elliott Abrams, Reagan's war dog

for Central America, has teamed up with retired Gen. Paul Gorman, former Southern Command chief, to utilize their contacts. They're peddling a scheme to use cargo blimps to whisk mahogany logs from inaccessible Honduran forest areas. Abrams also has a logging deal in Brazil and assures, "I'm making lots of money. It's great."

Dishing out justice — In Montréal, Elizabeth Smith spent a night in jail and 29 more under house arrest. An arthritic with a "handicapped" sticker on her car, she refused to pay a \$10 fine for

parking in an area for the handicapped. Later, she failed to appear in court because she was slated for an emergency operation. She was automatically declared guilty.

True equality — "That's the way the justice system works. . . . Handicapped individuals have rights, but they also have duties, just like everyone else." — A court clerk on the Smith case.

Fact and fiction, the thin line — Rep. Claudine Schneider (R.-Ill.) says she was just kidding when she said Quayle returned from

Latin America regretting he hadn't studied Latin. But, curiously, a lot of folk believed it, and it was widely reported as fact.

Gets contagious — Fifty Israeli police were dismissed for using excessive force, against Jews. Israel's police minister explained that many of his cops have faced protesters in Jerusalem and, "after many weeks of daily use of clubs and fists, some of our men were tempted to use these very methods in Tel Aviv and Haifa."

Capitalism, the carnival sys-

tem — A bank in Abington, Massachusetts, offers depositors of more than \$1,000 the chance to spin a wheel that sets their interest rate.

All perfectly natural — Prosperous white males receive a disproportionate share of organ transplants, as opposed to women, nonwhites, and those with smaller incomes. But, experts insist, the present selection system is sex-blind and color-blind. Sure. If you have the right skin complexion, the right sex, the right income, and know the right doctor — no problem.

Interview with AMNLAE President Doris Tijerino

Continued from Page 8

out her function, the professional woman, and the teacher who watches over the education of our children — they are AMNLAE.

AMNLAE is the woman who investigates social problems, or who does mathematical research, or who watches over the development of the country's geothermal and hydroelectric plants. The movement is where a woman is, but we must join together to work collectively and share knowledge and experiences.

Q. What are the characteristics and tasks of the movement?

Tijerino. It is a broad, democratic, people's movement. It fights to achieve growing participation and emancipation of women around their own interests and projects and their individual and collective actions in all spheres of society. The women's movement has a particular feature of raising the specific demands of women and, in addition, fighting to take increasingly advanced positions.

Undoubtedly, in order to develop the movement must carry out specific tasks. These are, in synthesis, the following:

First: We have to find how to train our-

selves, raise our cultural and academic level, and ensure equal rights in our incorporation into productive work.

Second: Take advantage of gains made, such as the Legal Office, the women's centers, the Women's Institute, and the women's secretariats of the various sectors, to exchange experiences and synthesize our work and at the same time to improve the quality and efficiency of our efforts in these areas.

Third: Project throughout the rest of society our own actions and tasks in all of the spheres in which we work.

Q. Does the movement aim to resolve women's problems?

Tijerino. I have already explained that the struggle of women is a struggle of the whole society. But we must have our own organizational expression to advance the fight, and this expression is AMNLAE.

The movement is a thermometer of how society, in its entirety, is resolving women's problems. And it is a necessary channel for presenting proposals to the state and the rest of society for resolving these problems.

To the extent that women, through the movement, express our interests collectively

and fight for answers, we will advance our own development in three ways: as individual women, as the collectivity of women, and as society.

Work with women is extremely important. The whole sphere of ideology — and this is not easy to deal with or to understand — requires study, discussion, analysis, and understanding society. It changes things around in the home, and as a result, in the family and in society.

Q. One of the main problems of Nicaraguan society is the high rate of women dying from abortion. What is the movement's position on this?

Tijerino. This is not just a problem of Nicaraguan society. It is a problem in many societies, and their approach to this depends on their values and customs.

In Nicaragua, abortion was customary among the Indians. Young married couples held that the older women were the ones who should have children. In relation to sexual freedom, there was an annual festival where women went off with whoever paid them or with whomever they wanted, but just for one night.

Now the situation is different. Abortion in Nicaragua is a reality. But the movement does not want women with torn uteruses or psychic and physical injury. We prefer to promote sex education, although there are cases in which therapeutic abortion is a necessity. For example, if a pregnant woman acquires a disease that could result in the birth of an abnormal baby, she is free to request a therapeutic abortion.

It is another matter to promote abortion as an end in itself. When a woman makes love or has intimate moments with her partner, she is not thinking about abortion.

The idea of "aborting" arises when the pregnancy collides with society's values. But the empirical practice of causing an abortion

physically and psychologically destroys the woman who submits to it. A woman who has an abortion suffers countless risks.

As the movement, we do not want the dozens of deaths from abortion that are reported every month in Nicaraguan hospitals today.

In the face of this situation it is preferable to promote sex education and to use contraceptive methods that we decide on with our partner.

This is a campaign that the movement is going to strengthen with the support of the appropriate institutions.

Every woman has the right to decide how many children she wants, and when, how, and where. She also has the right to fight for paternal responsibility.

In other words, we must: 1) democratize contraceptive methods; 2) democratize sex education through the schools, workplaces, and communications media; and 3) avoid the economic, psychic, and physical damage caused by abortion.

Q. What role does the proclamation on women play in the work of the movement?

Tijerino. The proclamation on women is the basic tool of our work. It contains the lines and tasks that women should carry out. Its publication is a historic event for Nicaragua and Latin America. Many women's movements are applying and developing it in their countries. It demonstrates the FSLN's interest in the situation of women. It is an advance in the discussion of this theme by the FSLN itself.

Q. Does the change in the executive committee indicate a change in line and tasks?

Tijerino. Not at all. The new executive will consolidate the achievements of the movement and deepen them, but all Nicaraguan women need to carry out these tasks.

Case against Des Moines cops

Continued from Page 9

adoption and implementation of training programs and policies concerning the unnecessary and unreasonable expression of hatred, animosity, violence, and/or excessive force by officers and jailers;

e. In failing to exercise due care in the adoption and implementation of training programs and policies on uncontrolled and unmonitored interrogation and confrontational tactics by officers and jailers;

f. In failing to exercise due care to remedy training programs and policies after knowledge of the use of unnecessary and unreasonable expressions of hatred, animosity, violence, excessive force, interrogation, and/or confrontational tactics by officers and jailers;

g. In failing to exercise due care in the protection and security of the plaintiff and other pretrial detainees with knowledge of the pervasive risk of harm to them; and

h. In failing to exercise ordinary care under the circumstances then and there existing.

3. That the negligence of the defendants in one or more of the foregoing particulars was a proximate cause of the plaintiff's injuries and damages.

4. As a proximate result of the defendants' negligent actions in one or more of the foregoing particulars, the plaintiff has suffered violations of his constitutional rights, violations of his statutory rights, and been subjected to personal injury, great pain and emotional distress, lost wages, reasonable and necessary medical expenses, humiliation and embarrassment, and will continue to experience those damages and injuries in the future.

5. The actions of the individual officers were done in the scope of their employment and the defendant, the City of Des Moines, Iowa, is responsible under the doctrine of *Respondeat Superior*, for the action of their defendant officers as heretofore described.

6. That the negligent actions of the defendants as set out showed a wanton and reckless disregard for the plaintiff's rights, and were malicious in nature, thereby entitling plaintiff to both an award of actual damages, and

punitive damages from the individual officers.

7. That the plaintiff has complied with Chapter 613A, *Code of Iowa*.

Wherefore, the plaintiff respectfully demands judgment against the defendants for actual and compensatory damages in the amount of \$100,000, and for punitive damages against the defendant officers in the amount of \$100,000 together with interest at the statutory rate and the costs of this action.

Third claim—assault and battery

1. The plaintiff realleges and incorporates hereto Paragraphs 1–32 of the complaint as if fully set forth herein.

2. That the defendants' unjustified attack on the plaintiff was intentional and without just cause and subjected him to an assault and battery, thereby violating his constitutional rights, violating his statutory rights, subjected him to personal injury, great pain and emotional distress, loss of wages, reasonable and necessary medical expenses, humiliation, and embarrassment, and plaintiff will continue to experience those damages and injuries in the future.

3. The actions of the individual officers were done in the scope of their employment and the defendant, the City of Des Moines, Iowa, is responsible under the doctrine of *Respondeat Superior* for the actions of their defendant officers as heretofore described.

4. That the defendants' conduct as set forth above was intentional and showed a wanton and reckless disregard for the plaintiff's rights, and was malicious in nature, thereby entitling plaintiff to both an award of actual damages, and punitive damages from the individual defendants.

5. That the plaintiff has complied with Chapter 613A, *Code of Iowa*.

Wherefore, the plaintiff respectfully demands judgment against the defendants for actual compensatory damages in the amount of \$100,000 and for punitive damages against the defendant officers in the amount of \$100,000, together with interest at the statutory rate and the costs of this action.

—10 AND 25 YEARS AGO—

THE MILITANT

A SOCIALIST NEWSWEEDLY PUBLISHED IN THE INTERESTS OF THE WORKING PEOPLE
June 22, 1979

INSTITUTE, W.Va. — Women coal miners held their first national conference here June 8–10. Sponsored by the Tennessee-based Coal Employment Project (CEP), the conference attracted about 75 women miners.

CEP Director Betty Jean Hall explained the women had come to "talk about women's future in the coal mines. We came to share our problems, our victories, and where we go from here."

Women have only begun to get in the mines in the past few years. Hall reported that 2,574 women work as underground coal miners in this country.

THE MILITANT

Published in the interests of the Working People
June 22, 1964

Despite a government order prohibiting him from making any kind of public utterance, Chief Albert Luthuli, former head of the African National Congress, has managed to release a statement to the world

protesting the life sentences given South African liberation leaders in the recent "sabotage" trial. Luthuli, a Nobel Peace Prize winner, is confined to his home by South Africa's racist rulers.

Chief Luthuli's statement says: "Sentences of life imprisonment have been pronounced on Nelson Mandela, Walter Sisulu, Ahmed Kathrada, Govan Mbeki, Dennis Goldberg, Raymond Mhlaba, Elias Motsoaledi, and Andrew Mlangeni in the Rivonia Trial in Pretoria.

"Over the long years these leaders advocated a policy of racial cooperation, of goodwill, and of peaceful struggle that made the South African liberation movement one of the most ethical and responsible of our time.

"But finally all avenues of resistance were closed. The African National Congress and other organizations were made illegal; their leaders jailed, exiled or forced underground.

"The ANC never abandoned its method of a militant, nonviolent struggle, and of creating in the process a spirit of militancy in the people. However, in the face of the uncompromising white refusal to abandon a policy that denies the African and other oppressed South Africans their rightful heritage — freedom — no one can blame brave just men for seeking justice by the use of violent methods."

Defend affirmative action

The Supreme Court's latest decisions undermining affirmative action measures to remedy employment discrimination against oppressed nationalities and women are part and parcel of the employing class' decade-long assault on the labor movement and all working people.

Like President George Bush's decision to veto a modest increase in the paltry minimum wage, the moves against affirmative action will hit the most oppressed and exploited workers hardest and make it more difficult to forge necessary unity among working people.

The high court justices have been pressing hard against affirmative action programs this year, taking every opportunity to chip away at the ability of working people to use laws won by the massive civil rights movement, and subsequent favorable court decisions, to advance their fight for equality, dignity, and rights on the job.

- On January 23 the court, in a 6-to-3 vote, ruled that a Richmond, Virginia, ordinance that channeled 30 percent of public works funds to Black-owned construction companies violated the constitutional rights of white contractors to equal protection under the law.

- In March the Supreme Court reinforced its January decision by striking down a similar law in Michigan requiring that a percentage of state contracts be awarded to minority- or women-owned businesses.

- That same month, a U.S. district court judge in Alabama ordered an end to the 15-year-old consent decrees mandating affirmative action programs in the basic steel industry.

- On June 5 the court voted, 5-to-4, to make it substantially easier for employers to defend discriminatory hiring and promotion practices, upholding the employers in a suit filed by Eskimo and Asian salmon cannery workers in Alaska.

- The next week, again by a one-vote margin, the court permitted white firefighters in Birmingham, Alabama, to challenge an eight-year-old affirmative action plan designed to remedy that city's refusal to hire Blacks as firefighters.

- That same day, the court ruled that three women telephone workers were too late in filing a lawsuit against a biased seniority plan that resulted in their demotions because they are women.

Most commentary on affirmative action casts the issue as one of "white men" versus "minorities and women." This is false. It is, however, exactly what our employers and their spokespeople would like us to believe.

Affirmative action measures are a tool won by working people that can help overcome crippling divisions through achieving greater equality among workers in wages, working conditions, job categories, training, promotion, and hiring.

In the case of the Alaska cannery workers, the employers

utilize racist prejudices against Asians and Native Alaskans to impose low wages, poor working conditions, and inhuman living arrangements. The fight of these workers against discrimination is an absolutely necessary part of the struggle of all the cannery workers to achieve enough unity so that they can fight collectively for better wages and conditions.

The fight by Black firefighters in Birmingham is part of a broader effort to build and strengthen the labor movement in the South. This is key to bettering the lives of all working people by breaking down the racist barriers that are the legacy of the system of legal segregation known as Jim Crow.

And in the case of the three women telephone workers, their suit countered a crude move to intensify divisions among workers along sex lines.

The fundamental dividing line here is not color versus color, or sex versus sex. *It's class versus class.*

The recent decisions strike blows at the rights of tens of millions of Blacks, women, and other victims of discrimination to equal protection from the laws and courts. The rulings reinforce pervasive institutionalized racist and sexist discrimination that affects issues ranging from housing to police brutality. Working people are the first and foremost targets of these patterns of discrimination.

Everyone's wages are lower, working conditions are worse, and social benefits lessened when the employing class can get away with stigmatizing specific groups of people as inferior.

And discrimination fosters workers turning on each other as opposed to joining together in a fight against those who exploit us daily.

The same questions are involved in the freezing of the minimum wage — it serves to hurt all working people and to keep us stratified and therefore weaker.

There is a good reason why the U.S. labor movement's slogan has been, "An injury to one is an injury to all," while the U.S. rulers have always gone in for "Divide and conquer."

The latest court decisions attacking affirmative action are a reflection of what the employers have been able to accomplish in chipping away at our rights in the past 10 years. In the face of the world economic crisis of the capitalist system, they are attempting to make working people shoulder the burden of that crisis.

These decisions will also embolden employers to attempt to further violate civil rights laws and water down or do away with affirmative action programs.

The main thing we need to keep in mind, however, is that the decisive fights over affirmative action are still in front of us. While we have suffered blows, we are far from being defeated.

No court, no matter how "supreme," can undo on paper what was won in years of battles by working people, if we mobilize to defend our gains.

What the Chinese students were demanding

BY DOUG JENNESS

Chinese leaders Deng Xiaoping and Li Peng charge that the student protests were "counterrevolutionary," which they say justified the murderous attack on the demonstrators and the wholesale roundup and jailing of hundreds of students.

But tens of millions of people around the world, who were able to follow the protests day by day on their TVs,

LEARNING ABOUT SOCIALISM

know that this was not the case. The students were waging a struggle for democratic rights and against increasing corruption and privilege within governing circles.

But what does their demand for democracy mean? Were they pressing for parliamentary democracy or for workers' democracy to help advance the struggle for socialism?

Were they calling for the same elementary democratic rights working people have fought for and to some extent won under capitalism? And if so, is fighting for them really necessary in a country where capitalist rule has been overturned as in China?

It's important to give clear answers to these questions in order to better understand what the recent protests in China were about and why they deserve the support of working people around the world.

The students demanded that they have the right to organize their own student association and the freedom to express their ideas, including criticism of government policies. Opposition to press censorship attracted broad support from journalists as the struggle developed.

In discussing democracy we should distinguish between parliamentary democratic institutions and the democratic rights that the toilers have fought to get institutionalized into law in order to give them more elbow room to organize and function politically.

Most of the U.S. Constitution, for example, outlines the responsibilities and parameters of the democratic republic set up 200 years ago. At the time, this was an advance over monarchy or colonial rule, and today it is a better framework for working people to function in than either a military dictatorship or fascist rule.

However, this democracy is based on upholding capitalist property rights. It will be replaced by working people when we wrest political power from the capitalists, establish our own government, and expropriate the capitalist class. Under workers' and farmers' rule new forms will be established through which working people can directly administer and take command of the economy and the state. For workers this will be far more democratic than capitalist democracy.

Another part of the U.S. Constitution, however, is the first 10 amendments (Bill of Rights) and other amendments that have extended democratic rights. These were added as a result of struggle by working people to expand the political space they have and to extend the layers of people who are considered citizens with rights under the law. This includes freedom of speech, assembly, press, and religion; the right to privacy; and many other rights.

The inspiration for these democratic rights, just as it was for establishing a republican form of government, came out of the bourgeois democratic revolutions. And often the two things were merged together as democratic revolutionary movements arose. But the difference for working people between parliamentary democracy and democratic rights is that the latter are unambiguously in our interest, and we have more at stake in defending and extending them than anyone else. Moreover, these are rights that working people will need and will expand when the capitalist overlords are tossed out and we begin advancing toward socialism.

Far from being incompatible with workers' power and the transition to socialism they are essential instruments for carrying through that process. Communists will never win the leadership of millions of working people with the line that democratic rights can be compromised or violated in a socialist society. And deservedly so.

There is no evidence that the student protesters in China were demanding the overturn of the present economic and political structures in China and the formation of a "capitalist republic," as Deng put it.

Nor were they calling upon workers and farmers to organize their own organs of struggle that could replace the domination of the privileged bureaucracy with the democratic rule of working people.

They demanded that the government simply allow the same democratic rights that have been won by working people in many capitalist countries, but which don't exist in China. When they met intransigence from Deng, Li Peng, and others, they called for their removal and favored officials in the hierarchy such as Zhao Ziyang whom they thought might be more receptive to their demands.

This was a just struggle deserving the support of working people around the world, not a counterrevolutionary plot.

False friends of rights in China

The hypocrisy of capitalist politicians on the question of democracy has been thrown into relief by events in China.

From George Bush, Margaret Thatcher, Edward Kennedy, New York's Mayor Edward Koch, and many others has come a loud chorus of condemnations of the Chinese government's mass killing of protesters. They have praised the students and workers who are calling for more democratic rights.

These politicians are exploiting the crimes of the Beijing regime to project themselves as champions of democracy and defenders of civil liberties around the world.

The big-business media have seized on these events and stepped up a global propaganda campaign proclaiming the "demise of socialism" and hailing the "revolt against communism."

The political representatives of U.S. and British imperialism are conspicuously muted in their criticisms of anti-democratic governments in South Africa, South Korea, Israel, Taiwan, and Chile.

These cheerleaders of freedom include perpetrators of Washington's criminal invasion of Grenada in 1983 and supporters of U.S. colonial rule over Puerto Rico, as well as Washington's drive to retain control of the Panama Canal and dictate who will govern Panama.

They back the British government as it militarily occupies Northern Ireland, holds the Chinese city of Hong Kong as a colony, and maintains its grip on Argentina's Malvinas Islands.

These politicians oppose dismantling U.S. military bases in Korea, Japan, and the Philippines, which threaten China and other countries.

What are they really defending? It is not democratic rights in China nor is it a concept of government of, for, and by the masses of people.

Their rhetoric is used to bolster capitalist minority political rule, maintain imperialist oppression, and protect capitalist ownership and control of mines, mills, factories, farms, and banks.

To defend their undemocratic rule, they are adopting ever more laws and taking more actions that restrict democratic rights.

The government of Prime Minister Thatcher in Britain has jailed suspected Irish freedom fighters on trumped-up charges in grossly unfair trials, killed others in cold blood, expanded censorship, and restricted the right to strike.

In the United States, striking coal miners in West Virginia are being arrested for exercising their rights to strike and picket.

Hundreds of thousands of Chinese people living in the United States face discrimination in hiring and on the job, and resistance to recognizing their right to use their own language in schools and elsewhere.

To punish the Chinese government, some capitalist politicians in the United States and Britain are calling for the imposition of economic sanctions. The Bush administration in Washington is holding back, preferring to make the record against the massacre while retaining diplomatic and economic ties.

Working people should oppose the imposition of any sanctions against China by the U.S. or other governments. It is the Chinese workers, farmers, and other toilers who will be harmed the most. They were the targets of the embargo on trade with China that Washington imposed after the 1949 revolution and maintained for years thereafter.

International solidarity with the protesters in China will not be furthered by supporting the imperialist rulers against China.

Rather than demanding that Washington impose sanctions on China, working people should demand the lifting of embargos imposed on Cuba, Nicaragua, Vietnam, Iran, Libya, and other targets of the U.S. rulers' wrath.

International working-class solidarity with China's students, farmers, and workers, who demand democratic rights, can best be shown today by helping to get out the facts as widely as possible about what they are fighting for and the repression they face.

Kansas City garment workers back Eastern strikers

BY SIBYL PERKINS
AND VICKI MILLER

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — "ILGWU supports Eastern strikers" was the slogan on a sign carried by several garment workers who joined the Eastern strike picket line

UNION TALK

at the airport here recently. The sign bore the names of 50 members of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union from Rice Coats Co. They had signed up to show solidarity with the 30 Machinists' union members, flight attendants, and pilots who are on strike against Eastern Airlines in Kansas City.

In early May, several workers and the ILGWU union steward circulated the sign around the shop. This was the way many workers at Rice heard about the unions' fight at Eastern for the first time.

Workers in the shop come from many different countries, including Japan and countries in Western Europe. There are also many Black workers. Out of a total work force of 80, 50 put their names on the "ILGWU supports Eastern strikers" sign. Twenty pulled out a dollar for a "Stop Lorenzo" button to help the strike fund.

Support for the Eastern strikers was not unanimous, however. A debate has started in the shop about the issues in the fight at Eastern, and on the need for union members

in this small factory to show support for the strikers.

When asked to put their name on the sign, workers' responses ranged from "We don't want them to lose their union — I'll sign if it's for the union" to "Why should we support them? When we went out, they didn't support us. If they win, plane tickets will go up, and we'll have to pay."

As the debate has deepened, two poles of opinion have emerged in the shop. On one side are those workers who fear that strikes and solidarity lead to plant shutdowns, higher prices, and runaway shops. No union does much good, they say. These people have succeeded in pressuring some undecided workers into removing their "Stop Lorenzo" buttons.

On the other side are those workers who support their union, and who see that they have some stake in the outcome of the Eastern battle.

Some workers have been won over to this position. One woman initially said, "I've been in this union for 32 years, and it never did anything for me," and refused to add her name to the picket sign. She later came forward and asked for a "Stop Lorenzo" button. "I'm glad to see young people like you standing up. Most people here are too old," she said, as she handed over her dollar contribution.

Shortly after the picket signing and button campaign, the Eastern strikers called for a Women's Day on the airport picket line, to be held May 20. Supporters of the

strike in our local built the event at Rice, where almost all the workers are women.

Five ILGWU members from different shops attended the Women's Day picket, which drew 150 other women. Retired ILGWU official Lillian McKittrick was also at the picket line that day.

Our local, Local 114, has initiated a food drive for the Eastern strikers, and little by little, workers are bringing in their cans of food. Leaflets and signs about the strike and the food drive have made their way to the union bulletin board.

The strike has begun to have a presence in the shop, and more workers discuss it at lunch and break time. The boss is also aware of this presence, and jokingly threatened to ask workers to sign a card to commemorate Texas Air Corp. Chairman Frank Lorenzo's 50th birthday.

More and more workers around the country are finding themselves facing what Eastern workers face: a choice between giving back more wages, benefits, and even our dignity, or standing up to the company's attacks. Whether workers at Rice Coats are in a fight right now or not, we have something to contribute to helping our union brothers and sisters at Eastern.

We can also learn from the experiences they are going through. It's about solidarity: "I guess you have to give some to get some," said one worker in our shop.

Vicki Miller and Sibyl Perkins are members of ILGWU Local 114 at Rice Coats Co. in Kansas City.

LETTERS

Abortion

I have always been pleased to note the *Militant's* strongly pro-choice stand on abortion. It was therefore disappointing to read coeditor Doug Jenness' equivocal column, "Prochoice or proabortion?" in the May 5 issue.

Jenness takes issue with a proposal made by Christopher Hitchens that appeared in the *Nation*. Hitchens suggests that women give up the right to abortion except in cases of rape, incest, or damage to the woman's health in exchange for a series of currently nonexistent social services.

Jenness replies, "The problem with Hitchens' proposed social solution for eliminating abortions by attempting to do away with the need for them is that it assumes a very different social system than the system of capitalist exploitation. . . . Hitchens' proposals are impossible unless a totally different situation exists for women. . . ."

Hitchens' proposal is wrong, not because of a given social system, but because it grants to someone other than the woman herself the right to decide whether to terminate her pregnancy. Such a proposal is wrong under capitalism and would be wrong in a socialist society. Revolutionaries must oppose it just as they opposed both the outlawing of abortion in the Soviet Union under Stalin and the current policy of forced abortion in China.

Jenness adds, "There is no technical barrier . . . to developing and providing safe, effective birth control. . . ."

But this is by no means certain. The medical community makes no such claim. We do not know whether 100 percent safe and effective contraception is in fact possible or whether, due to the complexity of biological systems, we will ever be able to achieve greater than 98 to 99 percent effectiveness.

Jenness adds that birth control should be made available to all "sexually active women." To demand birth control only for "sexually active women" without mentioning men is to imply that contraception is solely a woman's responsibility.

Jenness predicts that in a socialist society, where social services are provided free for all, the need for abortion will "decline and may even disappear."

When birth control is available and humans lose their medieval attitudes toward sex, unplanned pregnancies will decline. But the road is neither short nor smooth. Cuba, which has gone further along this road than any other country,

has recently experienced an increase in unplanned pregnancies.

It is highly unlikely that abortion will "disappear" under socialism. Can Jenness guarantee that there will never be a failure of birth control? That no one will ever engage in intercourse without having prepared for it? That no woman will ever change her mind about a pregnancy? That genetic defects will cease to exist? That not one single deranged individual will ever commit rape?

Jenness further states that "abortion is a medical procedure that involves some physical risk. The decision to have an abortion often entails mental distress." First trimester abortions are statistically safer than childbirth, and even the antiabortion Surgeon General Everett Koop was forced to admit that abortion does not cause women psychological harm.

The entire tone of Jenness' column gives the impression that he considers abortion to be a necessary evil, something that women must have access to now, but which will wither away under socialism. At a time when the antichoice movement is threatening women's lives, any apologies about abortion on the part of prochoice forces only gives aid and comfort to the enemies of women's rights.

Carol Sholin
Portland, Oregon

El Salvador I

I marched in Chicago with more than 100 others to protest the new "death-squad government" of Alfredo Cristiani that assumed power in El Salvador June 1.

Daisy Ventura, a representative from the Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front, reported that the FMLN has renewed the peace proposal it put forward before the recent elections. All parties except Cristiani's Nationalist Republican Alliance (ARENA) have been invited to participate in a joint effort to bring about peace and a political solution to the war in El Salvador.

The march was sponsored by the El Salvador Action Coalition.

John Votava
Chicago, Illinois

El Salvador II

At a demonstration against U.S. support to the Salvadoran government, a student at the University of Pennsylvania told how the Salvadoran army had surrounded the University of El Salvador May 30 to terrorize students.

I was among the 100 people who gathered at the Federal Building in

Philadelphia May 31. Protests were held in more than 30 cities across the country.

There were speakers from the religious community and labor movement, as well as a speaker from a human rights delegation to El Salvador.

Emily Fitzsimmons
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

None compare

I greatly enjoy Harry Ring's wit and wisdom. He certainly knows his stuff too! Doug Jenness' column, "Learning About Socialism," is extremely helpful to lots of Young Socialist Alliance members-at-large.

Without question, the *Militant* is the best communist paper in America. I've read a lot of others, and none can really compare.

Mark Davidson
Lexington, Kentucky

Misleading on Panama?

As a former Zonian (I lived in the Republic of Panama during the transition years, 1978-80), I read with some disappointment your May 19 editorial "Hands off Panama!"

The article states: "The current military and political intervention builds on nearly a century of U.S. aggression in Panama, beginning with the seizure of land on which the canal was built and the creation of the canal zone as a colonial enclave."

This is quite misleading. Panama as a nation is not quite 86 years old, and it was the United States that prevented Colombian warships from landing when Panama proclaimed its independence on Nov. 22, 1903, as well as being the first country to recognize Panama's independence. Further, the zone was not "seized," but turned over to the United States after France abandoned its attempt to build the canal.

P. Prindeville
Somerville, Massachusetts

Editor's reply — It is true that U.S. warships helped guarantee Panama's independence from Colombia in 1903, but why?

Panama had won its independence from Spain in 1821 and then was incorporated into newly independent Colombia. From 1821 to the end of the 19th century, however, struggles by Panamanians desiring autonomy continually erupted. The autonomy movement was led at the time by merchants and land speculators hoping to benefit from plans to build a canal in Panama.



1959. U.S. soldiers threaten Panamanians trying to place Panama flag in canal zone.

The U.S. government helped various Colombian regimes maintain control over Panama. U.S. troops intervened five times in the 1860s alone to put down separatist rebellions in Panama.

In 1899 a civil war broke out in Colombia, with one side favoring Panamanian autonomy. For the first time, masses of Panamanians became involved in the independence struggle.

The struggle deepened at just the point that Washington was seeking to gain control of the canal being built in Panama. Colombia had originally contracted with a French company to build the canal. When the French company went bankrupt, the U.S. government stepped in to buy the canal concession and arrange a treaty with Colombia. Philippe Bunau-Varilla, a speculator originally working with the French company, became the chief representative of Washington in the dealings.

In the summer of 1903, the Colombian government rejected the terms of the treaty Washington proposed. On Nov. 3, 1903, Panama declared independence from Colombia. On Nov. 18, 1903, a canal treaty was signed by the United States and the new Panamanian government — with Bunau-Varilla signing for Panama!

The treaty stipulated that "the Republic of Panama grants to the United States all the rights, power, and authority within the [canal] zone . . . which the United States would possess and exercise if it were the sovereign of the territory . . . to the entire exclusion of the exercise by the Republic of

Panama of any such sovereign rights, power or authority."

The treaty allowed the United States to occupy the zone "in perpetuity." It further gave U.S. troops the right to maintain "public order" in Panama City and Colón, the two main cities bordering the zone, "in case the Republic of Panama should not be . . . able to maintain such order."

U.S. troops were directly used against the Panamanian people in 1918, 1921, 1925, 1958, 1959, and 1964. In the 1964 instance, U.S. soldiers and police shot more than 20 dead and wounded 500 during a protest over the right to fly the Panamanian flag.

This brief sketch confirms, in our opinion, that the zone is a "colonial enclave" that must be returned to its rightful owners, the Panamanian people.

The *Militant* special prisoner fund makes it possible to send reduced-rate subscriptions to prisoners who can't pay for them. Where possible the fund also tries to fill prisoners' requests for other literature. To help this important cause, send your contribution to: Militant Prisoner Subscription Fund, 410 West St., New York, N.Y. 10014.

The letters column is an open forum for all viewpoints on subjects of general interest to our readers. Please keep your letters brief. Where necessary they will be abridged. Please indicate if you prefer that your initials be used rather than your full name.

Solidarity to work with Polish gov't

BY SELVA NEBBIA

In the national elections recently held in Poland, Solidarity candidates won 92 seats in the new 100-seat Senate, which was contested in open balloting. Eight seats, in which none of the competing candidates obtained the necessary 50 percent of the vote to be elected, will be contested in run-offs June 18. That means none of the ruling Communist Party candidates were elected to the Senate outright.

In the 460-seat lower house, Solidarity was permitted to run for 161 seats. Of those contests only one Solidarity candidate failed to be elected in the first round.

On the other hand, in a stinging blow, only three Communist Party candidates obtained enough votes to be certified as winners in the 65 percent of the seats apportioned to them in the lower house.

Even 33 of the CP nominees who ran unopposed failed to obtain the 50 percent requirement to qualify for the lower house. Voters crossed their names off the ballot. The Polish president, Wojciech Jaruzelski, affirmed the legitimacy of the elections, and Solidarity and government leaders are negotiating how they will run the country.

The Communist Party leaders have offered Solidarity to share the government, or at least a coalition umbrella under which Solidarity would support the government's efforts issue by issue. Solidarity leader Lech Walesa responded that he would strongly urge Solidarity's legislators to take the latter approach, and not take cabinet positions in the government.

Government-Solidarity agreement

The elections were called as a result of an agreement reached between the Polish government and Solidarity during negotiations earlier this year. The independent trade union, Solidarity, was legalized in April after being banned for seven years.

In exchange for establishing an elected senate and more liberal regulations for the vote to the lower house, Solidarity agreed to accept a more powerful role for the president. This includes sweeping powers in foreign affairs and domestic and foreign security.

Following the elections, Walesa, who was not a candidate, said, "We did not fight for chairs for ourselves, or a change of government, or a fight with the government.

"We fought for a different system of wielding power in this country," said Walesa. "Therefore we cannot replace this government, or we will become just like this government. What we want is to conduct changes together with this government."

The Solidarity slate included candidates with a wide range of views. Many were drawn from the Catholic church lay councils or organizations such as the Club of Catholic Intelligentsia.

On May 17, a few weeks before the election, the regime officially recognized the legal right of the Catholic church to own property, set up schools, and establish its own communications media.

How Solidarity was formed

Solidarity was formed in 1980 after a massive upsurge and strike wave. Though the government attempted to crush the new union movement through repression by declaring martial law in December 1981 and banning the independent union, it never succeeded in crushing Solidarity.

After a series of strikes by workers last year the Polish government changed course in August 1988 and proposed talks to discuss restoring Solidarity to legal status.

This step was made to get Solidarity's help in implementing the government's economic policies and putting a stop to growing protests by workers.

But even as elections were being organized, the economic crisis was worsening and strikes continued. Inflation, for example, is expected to exceed 100 percent in Poland this year.



Tallying up the votes. None of the Communist Party candidates were elected to the Senate.

In response, workers in recent strikes have been demanding higher wages.

Coal miners at the Belchatow mine, 90 miles southwest of Warsaw, for example, staged a strike February 6-9. About 5,000 out of a work force of 12,000 occupied the mine. Though many of the miners belonged to the union, Solidarity did not authorize the strike. A delegation from Solidarity's national executive commission went to Belchatow to persuade the miners to return to work. The miners heeded Solidarity's

call to end the walkout after management agreed to partially meet their pay demands.

"The government can print lots more money," Walesa appealed to striking copper miners three months later on May 9. "But I beg you, let's put these things off for a moment." Some 20,000 miners had been occupying four Polish copper mines since May 5 over wage demands.

Referring to Solidarity's heyday period, Walesa told the miners, "That was a time of great enthusiasm and struggle. Now is a

period of hard work and compromise."

In the countryside the crisis is also hitting farmers hard. Many young farmers, hard pressed to make ends meet, are abandoning their land and moving to the cities or emigrating abroad.

In April President George Bush announced plans for more than \$1 billion in loans and investments for Poland. None of this will begin, Bush insisted, until Poland has adopted "sound economic positions."

Describing the Bush stance, a World Bank official said, "Before any money is disbursed, we still need to see what the government's economic plans will be: what it will do to bring down inflation, reduce price controls, harden soft budget constraints, provide incentives for enterprise."

One of the agreements reached by the Jaruzelski regime and Solidarity during the negotiations that led to the union's legalization, was for lifting price controls on the produce of private farmers and the easing of restrictions on the sale of private agricultural lands.

Like the Soviet regime of Mikhail Gorbachev, which has proclaimed a policy of *perestroika* or economic restructuring, Jaruzelski's government is moving away from administrative centralized economic planning in favor of greater reliance on capitalist market forces and profitability to stimulate growth. Late last year, for example, the Polish government lifted all limits on the number of workers a privately owned firm can employ. Previously firms could hire no more than 150 workers. It also permitted foreign investors to own up to 100 percent of firms.

On April 22, speaking at a news conference at the end of a three-day visit to Italy where he was seeking investments for Poland, Walesa voiced his support for economic reforms in the Soviet Union. "We don't want to disturb anyone, and above all create obstacles for *perestroika*."

Prosecution of Israeli activist for political views exposed in court

BY HARRY RING

The political basis for the Israeli government's prosecution of Michel Warschawski is now out in the open.

In his trial, the prosecution is examining Warschawski intently on his political beliefs and introducing as evidence articles written by him and others he is associated with.

A political activist who supports the Palestinian liberation struggle, Warschawski, and the Alternative Information Centre, which he founded, are charged with rendering services to "prohibited" West Bank and Gaza Palestinian organizations.

The organizations he is charged with helping — unions, women's organizations, and campus groups — all function publicly and none have been proscribed.

The "services rendered" to them consists of doing typesetting work.

Meanwhile, the prosecution put off, but did not drop, a move to further victimize Warschawski with a possible contempt-of-court jailing.

The trial has been under way, in periodic sessions, since last October.

In cross-examination of Warschawski June 6, the prosecutor began the extensive questioning about his political views. Introduced as evidence were articles written by him, as well as documents and resolutions of the Revolutionary Communist League, of which Warschawski is a longtime member.

Warschawski insisted from the witness stand that if he was to be tried for his political opinions, then he should be charged with that, not rendering typesetting services.

The judge assured he was not being ac-

cused for his political opinions but continued to permit the line of questioning.

The prosecutor said it was necessary to focus on Warschawski's beliefs because this would establish that his help to Palestinian organizations was no accident but a conscious policy linked to his beliefs.

In a telephone interview from Jerusalem, Warschawski said, "That point we did not deny. What I've done is a logical outcome of my beliefs."

"I made it very clear," he stressed. "It is true that we support the Palestinian struggle. And we will do whatever we can to support that struggle so long as what we do is within the framework of legality."

"But," he explained, "the issue is not whether we support the Palestinians and are ready to help them as much as we can. The issue is whether or not what we did is within the framework of the law."

Warschawski said the grilling about his political beliefs will continue when the trial resumes June 22, and he will continue to take the same stand on this.

The move to victimize Warschawski on a contempt charge came early in his testimony. The prosecutor demanded that he tell the court the names of Palestinians that the Alternative Information Centre had done work for or been in contact with.

During the police investigation prior to the trial, Warschawski had consistently refused to give any names.

Despite the judge's warning that he could be jailed for contempt, Warschawski refused again to give the names.

He explained to the court that this was a matter of principle that he had learned from

his father, who was active in the underground during the Nazi occupation of France in World War II.

Warschawski added that in Gaza and the West Bank, "the fact that you are involved in a legitimate activity is not a guarantee that you will not have trouble with the Shabak [secret police] and the authorities. The thousands of administrative detainees who inhabit Ansar 3 camp in Ketziot can prove it."

At the judge's suggestion, the prosecutor said he would put the issue of getting the names aside for the time being, but might return to it before the cross-examination is over.

Prior to Warschawski's testimony, the court heard from a key government witness, the director of research for the secret police. To assure anonymity, he testified from behind a curtain and offered the pseudonym "Rueven."

Under cross-examination by defense attorneys Lea Tsemel and Avigdor Feldman, "Rueven" agreed that no specific activities of unions, student groups, or women's organizations had been declared illegal. Yet, he insisted, all of them were tied to the Palestine Liberation Organization, which is outlawed by the Israeli regime.

All Palestinian organizations, he insisted, are controlled by one or another affiliate of the PLO.

If a person holds a particular opinion, he was asked, and that opinion is held by one of the prohibited organizations, does that make the individual holding the opinion a supporter of the organization?

"Correct," the cop responded.